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Fifty-ninth year

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Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Group to the United Nations, to transmit herewith the text of the final communiqué (annex I) and the resolutions (annexes II-XI) adopted by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers at its thirty-first session, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 14 to 16 June 2004.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 10, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 31, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 51, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 65, 66, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 77, 80, 84, 85, 87, 93, 95, 96, 100, 102, 104, 105, 108, 111, 112, 114, 115, 117, 118, 119, 156, 158, 160 and 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Permanent Representative
Chairman, Organization of the Islamic Conference Group

Annexes to the letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

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Annex I

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF PROGRESS AND GLOBAL HARMONY)

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

26-28 RABIULTHANI 1425H

(14-16 JUNE 2004)

1. At the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Turkey, the 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers entitled *Session of Progress and Global Harmony* was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 26-28 Rabiulthani 1425H (14-16 June 2004).

2. The Conference was opened with a recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. His Excellency Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, delivered a speech in which he welcomed the Ministers and delegates participating in the Session.

3. The three OIC regional groups then successively took the floor to respond to the speech of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Turkey: His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Guinea for the African Group, His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Tunisia for the Arab Group and His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Indonesia for the Asian Group. They all expressed their deep gratitude to the government and people of the Republic of Turkey for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to the delegates and participants as well as for the efforts made to make the Conference a success. Based on their proposal, the Conference resolved to consider the statement of H.E. the President of the Republic of Turkey an official document of the Conference.

4. At the beginning of the first working session, H.E. Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chairman of the 30th ICFM, delivered a speech in which he outlined the efforts that the Islamic Republic of Iran made during the preceding of the 30th session of the ICFM to promote joint Islamic action. He commended the Secretary-General, his aides and the entire staff of the General Secretariat for their efforts to implement the resolutions of the Islamic Conference. His Excellency, Dr. Abdelouahed Belkeziz, the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference then presented a full report on the OIC's activities over the past year. (Annex) H.E. Hamid Albar, the

Foreign Minister of Malaysia in his capacity as representative of the Chair of the Tenth Islamic Summit, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations also made statements at the first working session.

5. In conformity with the recommendation of the Senior Officials' Meeting, the Conference unanimously elected H.E. Mr. Abdullah Gul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, as Chairman of the 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. It approved the composition of the Bureau as follows: Republic of Tunisia, Burkina Faso, State of Palestine as Vice Chairmen and the Islamic Republic of Iran as Rapporteur.

6. The Conference adopted the report of the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Preparatory to the current session held in Jeddah from 20-23 Rabiul Awwal 1425H (9-12 May 2004 – annex No. ICFM/31-2004/SO/REP/FINAL). The Conference adopted the Draft Agenda and Work Program that the SOM submitted to it).

7. After considering the reports of the Secretary-General and in light of the brilliant statements made and the constructive discussions that took place among the Ministers and Heads of Delegations at the Plenary Session and in the Committees, the Conference adopted a number of resolutions as follows:

8. The Conference stressed the need for an end to Israel's occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967 and called for the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from all occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the 4 June 1967 borders. It also stressed the need to establish an independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital in accordance with international resolutions on Palestine, Al Quds Al Sharif and the Middle East, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 1073 (1996), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003) and General Assembly Resolution 194 on the Return of Palestinian Refugees, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Roadmap as published.

9. The Conference commended with pride the resistance of the valiant Palestinian people and their legitimate leadership headed by gallant President Yasser Arafat against Israeli aggression. It called for an immediate end to the siege imposed on the Palestinian people and President Yasser Arafat so that they can move freely in and out of the Palestinian territories. It condemned recent Israeli threats on President Arafat's life and reaffirmed its continued political, financial and moral support for the Palestinian people so that they can regain their inalienable national rights, including the right of return, self-determination and an independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Sharif as its capital.

10. The Conference called on the UN Security Council to assume its responsibility of ensuring international peace and security by compelling Israel to put an end to its aggression and state terrorism such as the killing of civilians, assassinations, detentions, collective punishment, incessant incursions, occupation of cities, villages and Palestinian refugee camps, demolition of homes of Palestinians, and destruction of the institutions and infrastructure of the Palestinian Authority and the national economy. It holds Israel fully and legally responsible for such crimes and requested the international community to compel Israel to put an immediate end to the destruction of homes and to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1544 of 19 May 2004. The Conference called for efforts to secure the release of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and stressed the need to implement the declaration issued on 5/12/2001 by the Conference of the States Parties to the Geneva Convention of 1949.

11. The Conference called on the UN Security Council to deploy UN peacekeeping forces in the occupied Palestinian territories in order to ensure international protection of the Palestinian people and their holy places.

12. The Conference affirmed its total condemnation of President George Bush's statements made on 14/4/2004 at a joint press conference with the Prime Minister of Israeli as well as America's letter of guarantees to Israel, which run counter to the resolutions of international legality and to the provisions of peace accords, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Roadmap, and blatantly violate the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, especially issues such as borders, refugees, Al Quds and settlements.

13. The Conference strongly condemned the recent Israeli unilateral plan and stressed that nobody whosoever has the right to concede Palestinians' national rights to Israel or to negotiate them with the latter on behalf of the Palestinian people and their legitimate and democratically elected leadership.

14. The Conference stressed the need for a just settlement of the question of Palestinian refugees in accordance with resolutions of international legality, especially UN General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948. It condemned all attempts to resettle Palestinians.

15. The Conference called on the Quartet to intensify efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East in accordance with the Roadmap and related agreements and resolutions, and on the basis of the principles of the peace process and the Arab Peace Initiative. It also called upon the Quartet to set a specific timeframe that must not be implemented piecemeal. It condemned all unilateral measures that contradict such a stance.

16. The Conference condemned Israel's construction of the separation wall and called on the international community to stop its construction and to remove the constructed parts in accordance with Resolution 13/10 (2003) adopted at an extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly. It warned against the adverse effects of the construction of such a wall, since it jeopardizes the establishment of a sovereign and viable Palestinian state and carries risks of a new wave of forced exodus of the Palestinians under harsh living conditions.

17. The Conference strongly condemned Israel's expansionist and colonialist policy and emphasized the need to stop all settlement activities and Israeli measures and practices, which contravene resolutions of international legality and also violate related accords signed by Palestinian and Israeli sides. It requested the U.N. Security Council to prevent such measures, remove Israeli settlements in accordance with Security Council Resolution 465 and revive the International Supervision and Monitoring Committee for the Prevention of Settlements in Al-Quds and the Occupied Arab Territories in line with Security Council Resolution 446. The Conference commended the efforts made by the Al Quds Committee under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Mohamed VI to safeguard the Arab Islamic identity of Al Quds.

18. The Conference hailed the government, people and the resistance movements of Lebanon for their steadfastness and for liberating Lebanese territories and repelling Israeli occupation. It also supported Lebanon in its efforts to liberate its entire territory within its internationally recognized borders. It also called on the United Nations to force Israel to pay damages for all the losses it inflicted or caused as a result of its continuous acts of aggression against Lebanon. It supported Lebanon in its demands for the removal of the mines left behind by Israeli occupation. Having planted these mines, Israel must bear the responsibility for their removal. It called for the necessity for Israel to hand out mine maps to Lebanon. In this connection, the Conference commended the efforts put in by the United Arab Emirates to remove mines in Lebanon. Furthermore, it backed the inalienable rights of Lebanon to utilize its waters in accordance with international law, and condemned Israel's designs on these waters. It held Israel responsible for any action that may undermine Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, national unity and territorial integrity.

19. The Conference strongly condemned Israel's policy of refusing to comply with Security Council Resolution 497 of 1981 and of imposing its laws, jurisdiction and administration on occupied Syrian Golan as well as its policies of annexation, building of settlements, confiscation of land, diversion of water sources and imposition of Israeli nationality upon Syrian citizens. It considered all such measures null and void, and a violation of the provisions and principles of International Law and International Humanitarian Law, particularly the 4th

Geneva Convention of 1949. It demanded Israel to withdraw completely from occupied Syrian Golan to the 4th June 1967 borders.

20. The Conference noted with appreciation the efforts of the leaders of the OIC Member States in favor of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people, including the efforts of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the exchange of letters between His Majesty the King of Jordan, Abdullah II, and the President of the United States, and called upon the US Administration to commit itself to the contents of these letters and the assurances contained therein.

21. The Conference called on Member States to implement the principles and resolutions of the Islamic Boycott against Israel and to adopt national legislations that govern it

22. The Conference stressed the need to reserve a portion for the Boycott on television, on the radio and in the press because they are legitimate instruments of resistance that are based on international law and resolutions of international legality.

23. The Conference endorsed the recommendations made by the 7th Meeting of Liaison Officers of the Islamic Regional Bureaus for the Boycott of Israel held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 15-17 March 2004.

24. The Conference affirmed its firm conviction of the need to safeguard Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence and to be ruled by its own people through a broad-based, inclusive and fully representative government Iraq in conformity with a constitution accepted by the Iraqi people. It also called for peaceful co-existence with the neighbours of Iraq and compliance with international legality as well as the principles of the United Nations and of the OIC.

25. The Conference strongly condemned the brutal torture of Iraqi prisoners by the occupying forces in violation of the Geneva Conventions and international law, and called for the punishment of the perpetrators.

26. The Conference condemned threats against some Member States, particularly the Syrian Arab Republic, and condemned the American administration's decision to impose unilateral economic sanctions against Syria. It also condemned the so-called "Syria Accountability Act". It urged Member States to further strengthen their brotherly ties with Syria in all fields.

27. The Conference expressed firm support for the rightful cause of the Muslim Turkish Cypriots; reiterated its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary-

General under his Mission of Good Offices, and hailing their affirmative vote on 24th April 2004 for the UN Settlement Plan which fundamentally changed the circumstances in Cyprus, decided to put an end within the context of the call made by the UN Secretary-General in his Report of 28th May 2004 to the unjust isolation of Turkish Cypriots. Through the resolution it adopted by consensus, the Conference welcomed the willingness of the Turkish side for a peaceful settlement of the issue, emphasizing the equal political status of the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriot sides. Recalling that the UN Plan aimed to establish a new state of affairs in Cyprus in the form of a new bi-zonal partnership with two equal constituent states, it acknowledged that neither side may claim authority or jurisdiction over the other, and that the Greek Cypriots do not represent the Turkish Cypriots. The Conference urged Member States to closely associate with the Turkish Cypriots with a view to helping them materially and politically and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and, in particular direct transport, trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports contacts. In this context it also called upon the international community to take immediate concrete steps aimed at ending the isolation of the Turkish Cypriots.

28. The Conference reiterated its determination to preserve Somalia's unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence. It affirmed its support for the Somalia Reconciliation Conference in Kenya and called on all Somali sides to ensure the success of the third and final phase of the conference. The Conference urged all states, particularly neighbouring states, to respect the sovereignty of Somalia and refrain from interfering in its internal affairs.

29. The Conference reaffirmed its support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their legitimate right to self-determination, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. It called for respect of the human rights of the Kashmiri people and the ending of their continuous violations. It urged India to end human rights violations against the Kashmiri people and allow international human rights organisations to verify the condition of human rights in Indian-held Kashmir.

30. The Conference supported the ongoing peace process between Pakistan and India and commended Pakistan for its continued efforts to create and sustain an enabling environment for a composite dialogue with India. In this context, it also noted the adoption of a road map for talks by Pakistan and India in February 2004 which, inter-alia, includes dialogue on Jammu and Kashmir, peace and security. The Conference, noting with appreciation the positive developments in Pakistan-India relations ensuing from Pakistan's unilateral decision of ceasefire along LOC, expressed deep concerns about the continued suppression of the political aspirations of the Kashmiri people, including their right to self-determination.

31. The Conference endorsed the recommendations of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. It also took note of the memorandum presented by the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to the Contact Group and reaffirmed the OIC's commitment to promote a just and peaceful solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

32. The Conference welcomed the efforts of the people and government of Afghanistan to reconstruct their country. It also welcomed the efforts to extend the duties of UN and ISAF Forces to the whole of Afghanistan.

33. The Conference reiterated gratitude and appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar for his initiative to establish the Afghan People Assistance Fund. It called on Member States that have pledged donations to the Fund to remit the said donations. It also appealed to all Member States to make donations to the Fund.

34. The Conference appealed to the international community to provide the assistance it pledged to Afghanistan during the Tokyo Donor Conference held in January 2002 and the Berlin Donor Conference held on 31 March and 1 April 2004.

35. The Conference welcomed the positive development in the negotiations between the Sudanese government and the Sudan People Liberation Movement that culminated in the signing of the six protocols, which constitute the final framework of the peace agreement to be signed in July 2004. It urged the international community to support the agreement and help both parties to implement it. It called on the General Secretariat to speedily implement the resolution of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference on the Establishment of a Fund for the Reconstruction and Development of War-Stricken Regions in the Sudan. It also urged Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and financing institutions of Member States to contribute to the Fund.

36. The Conference reaffirmed the importance of strict compliance with the ceasefire agreement in Darfur, and the pursuit of dialogue in an attempt to arrive at a comprehensive solution to the problem. It commended the Sudanese government for the services it provides to the people and displaced persons and for its decision to allow international relief organizations to move freely and provide humanitarian services to the disaster-stricken population. It also called on Member States to urgently provide humanitarian assistance to the Darfur region before the rainy season in accordance with the recommendation of the OIC delegation that visited the region recently.

37. The Conference stressed the need to promote confidence building and security among Member States, uphold Islamic values and refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of States. It also called for greater cooperation, coordination and consultation and for a common stance in international fora.

38. The Conference reiterated its condemnation of the continuing occupation of the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan by the Republic of Armenia, and demanded Armenia to implement fully all provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884 and to stop illegal Armenian settlement process and all other activities in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

39. The Conference noted with concern the lack of solidarity and cohesion in the voting patterns of the OIC Member States and called upon all OIC Member States to participate more actively in future voting processes of the United Nations bodies, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the OIC Summits and Ministerial Conferences.

40. The Conference welcomed the UN Security Council's resolution to finally lift sanctions imposed on the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and called for the lifting of the remaining unilateral sanctions imposed on the Jamahiriya as a means of political coercion that contravenes UN resolutions.

41. The Conference reaffirmed the need for total nuclear disarmament and for the destruction of weapons of mass destruction. It called on Member States to actively take part in all related international initiatives and conferences. It called on all Member States to ratify fair and non-discriminatory international conventions and to encourage the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones. It strongly condemned Israel for developing nuclear weapons and persistently refusing to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency access to its nuclear facilities in contravention of all international agreements on nuclear proliferation. In this connection, the Conference condemned once again the principle of preemptive military strikes against any country under any pretext whatsoever.

42. The Conference expressed concern over the proliferation of light and small-caliber weapons and the manufacturing, use and trafficking of anti-personnel mines because such activities hamper economic development and cause instability, insecurity and internecine conflicts in Member States.

43. The Conference affirmed that Islamic States have an interest in a reformed United Nations System, including an enlarged UN Security Council. It called on Member States to actively and effectively take part in the UN reform process in accordance with declarations and statements issued by the OIC in this regard.

44. The Conference reiterated its condemnation of unilateral economic measures and attempts to impose economic sanctions on Member States. It expressed solidarity with Member States that are affected by such unilateral sanctions and urged that they be lifted immediately.

45. The Conference welcomed the Islamic Republic of Iran's signing of the Additional Protocol of the IAEA Guarantees Agreements and its continued cooperation with the Agency. It recognized the inalienable right of the Islamic Republic of Iran to develop its nuclear capabilities for peaceful purposes in accordance with the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

46 The Conference expressed satisfaction with the major developmental and humanitarian activities of the OIC Funds in Bosnia Herzegovina, Afghanistan and Sierra Leone in furtherance of the spirit of solidarity and cooperation within the Ummah. It urged Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to support the Funds and make use of them when it comes to implementing their projects meant for the above-mentioned countries.

47. The Conference paid special tributes to the President of Pakistan General Pervez Musharraf for his timely and important initiative on "Enlightened Moderation", which was adopted by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference through its Resolution No. 45/10-P(IS). It requested the Chairman of the Islamic Summit Conference to constitute a Commission of Eminent persons from Member States to follow-up the issue. The report and the recommendations of the Commission will be considered by an Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference to be held by the end of 2004. The Conference also appreciated the efforts of the Government of Pakistan for inviting Islamic scholars to an International Seminar on OIC, held in Islamabad on 1-2 June 2004, to evolve a set of recommendations for consideration of the Commission of Eminent Persons.

48. The Conference noted with appreciation the holding of the International Conference of Islamic Scholars in Jakarta on 23-25 February 2004, in particular the adoption of the Jakarta Declaration on *Upholding Islam as Rahmatan lil Alamin* and the Plan of Action.

49. The Conference welcomed the statement adopted at the International Symposium on "The Muslim World in the 21st Century" held in Istanbul on 12 June 2004.

50. The Conference expressed solidarity with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its efforts to combat the criminal terrorist acts it is faced with. It also stated its stance against all forms of international terrorism and called for greater international cooperation to combat the scourge. It requested the Committee of Thirteen to meet urgently and implement the tasks it has been assigned in this regard.

51. The Conference expressed serious resentment and indignation over the confession by Macedonian authorities to the massacre of six Pakistani immigrants, near Skopje in March 2002, in a bid to win Western recognition for Macedonia's fight against terrorism. It strongly condemned the cold-blooded murder of innocent civilians, and demanded full justice for the victims and due punishment for the perpetrators of this heinous crime.

52. The Conference reaffirmed the need to communicate with Muslim communities and minorities in the world and to make greater efforts in order to implement related Islamic resolutions. It stressed its total condemnation of all campaigns of hostility and hate that some media are still waging against Islam and Muslims, and recalled that Islam advocates compassion, tolerance and coexistence among all human beings.

53. The Conference exhorted Member States to give special attention to the causes of Muslim communities in Non-OIC Member States, especially those still suffering from oppression, persecution and ethnic cleansing, and called for greater cooperation and coordination between the OIC, the States concerned and international and regional organizations in this respect in order to restore their rights and ensure respect for their interests, culture and Islamic identity in accordance with the sovereignty, laws and traditions of their countries of residence.

54. The Conference urged the Republic of the Philippines to complete Phase II of the Peace Agreement concluded in 1996 between the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), and to continue to implement the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of the Muslim Autonomous Region in Southern Philippines in order to restore stability and peace in the region. It also called on it to cooperate with international and regional organizations that provide assistance for the development of the region.

55. The Conference stressed the commitment of Member States to respect the rights of non-Muslim communities and minorities living on their territories in accordance with the teachings of our noble Islamic religion. It condemned unfounded allegations made by certain quarters about the treatment of such minorities as well as measures taken as a pretext to interfere in the internal affairs of Member States.

56. The Conference commended the General Secretariat for its efforts to organize symposia and conferences designed to examine matters regarding Muslim minorities in non-OIC Member States, as well as the important recommendations they made to strengthen their ties with the Islamic world. It called on Member States and Islamic institutions to implement such recommendations.

57. The Conference stressed its commitment toward Muslims in non-OIC Member States. Given the fact that the Turkish Muslim community in Western Thrace in Greece is an integral part of the Islamic world, the Conference called for an overrule of the court verdict against the elected Muftis of Xanti and Komotini. It also stressed that the interest, rights and identity of the Muslim minority in Western Thrace should be respected and upheld.

58. The Conference deplored the continued plight of Muslims in the region of Arakan (Myanmar) and urged the Government of Myanmar to review its policies regarding its Muslim citizens and to repeal the discriminatory laws enacted against them in violation of basic human rights.

59. The Conference urged Member States that have not yet ratified the Statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice to complete the ratification process so that the Court can start its functions. It called for greater cooperation in judicial matters and in related research and studies.

60. The Conference recognized the need to follow up the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and further called on the Inter-governmental Group of Experts concerned with the matter to pursue its efforts and formulate Islamic Covenants on Human Rights, each of which would fully address one or more issues in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration. It also called on the sub-committee that is assigned to draft international covenants on human rights in Islam to continue its work.

61. The Conference called on Member States to continue coordinating and cooperating positively in the field of human rights, especially at international conferences and meetings on the issue in order to strengthen Islamic solidarity and counter any attempt to use human rights as a means of exerting political pressure on Member States; and to convey the OIC's position on human right issues, including the rights of Muslim minorities to the United Nations organs and agencies concerned. The Conference also supported the efforts made by Member States in Geneva for their common stance on issues of concern and on campaigns to distort the image of Islam as reflected in the resolution of the Human Rights Commission on the issue.

62. The Conference expressed deep concern over repeated and erroneous attempts to associate Islam with human rights violations, and over the use of television, the radio and the press to propagate such misconceptions. It called for an end to the unjustified campaigns of some non-governmental organizations against a number of Member States, which demand the abolition of Sharia laws and penalties in the name of human rights protection. It affirmed the right of States to uphold their religious, social and cultural idiosyncrasies, which are legacies that help enrich common universal concepts of human rights. It urged that the universality of human rights must not be used as a pretext to interfere in the internal affairs of States and flout their national sovereignty. The Conference also condemned the decision of the European Union to denounce stoning as a penalty and what it calls inhumane punishments meted out by some Member States in compliance with Islamic Sharia.

63. The Conference urged Member States once again to expeditiously sign or ratify the various agreements concluded under the aegis of the OIC.

64. The Conference affirmed the determination of Member States to abide by the provisions of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, and to co-ordinate efforts to combat all forms of terrorism, including state terrorism. It also called for greater co-operation among the Member States to combat terrorism.

65. The Conference condemned all forms of international terrorism, including hijacking and acts against civilian aircraft safety and security. It called on Member States to expeditiously ratify international agreements on hijacking and civil aviation safety and security.

66. The Conference considered the report of the Secretary-General on developments over the past year in the field of information and communication. It commended the Secretary-General and the competent departments of the General Secretariat for their efforts to refute misleading allegations in the international media that are designed to tarnish the image of Islam and Muslims. The Conference condemned systematic attempts to associate terrorism with Islam. It also hailed the measures proposed by the Secretary-General to enable the information and communication department of the OIC to promote the just causes of Islam and project its image in the best manner possible.

67. The Conference urged Member States to implement with greater interest the annual program of the Islamic information plan, provide the financial and technical assistance needed to carry out the program, and help national media institutions to acquire more experience and better vision for joint Islamic information action.

68. The Conference urged Member States to enhance their information strategies with a view to keeping pace with new technological advancements in information and communication, and provide material and technical support to the two specialized media institutions charged to implement the strategy: the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) in order to enable them to achieve their set objectives.

69. The Conference called upon Member States to interact more positively with the Islamic Program for the Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC) and to provide the funding needed for the programs submitted by Member States' media institutions, which need to be supported and developed. It requested the Islamic Solidarity Fund to finance some of those projects.

70. The Conference stressed the need to implement the conclusions of Phase I of the World Summit on Information Society held in Geneva (December 2003), to help the Republic of Tunisia to organize efficiently Phase II of the Summit (November 2005), and to contribute effectively to its preparatory meetings, which are scheduled for 2004-2005, so that Member States' efforts to prepare related documents can be coordinated.

71. The Conference called on the Follow-up Committee of the Sixth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers to meet and draft a charter for the information society and an action plan that would be submitted in the name of Member States at Phase II of the World Summit on the Information Society (Tunis 2005).

72. The Conference called on the international community to ensure that the benefits of globalization are fairly shared among all countries so as to strike a balance between the advantages and obligations of developing countries including OIC Member States. It also called on developed countries to ensure greater trade liberalization and more opportunities for the products and services of developing countries.

73. The Conference called on Member States to increase their share of world trade through greater competitiveness at the international level. It further underscored the need to increase intra-trade among OIC Member States.

74. The Conference called for the speedy accession of all the developing countries to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and stressed that no political consideration should impede this process. It condemned all attempts to include non-trade issues such as labour and environment standards into the WTO work program or to link such issues with trade transactions. It also reiterated its appeal to the WTO to focus more on the developmental aspects of the various multilateral trade agreements by taking a set of measures such as compliance with the provisions regarding special and preferential treatment for developing countries and due consideration to the special needs of least developed countries.

75. The Conference noted with regret the lack of progress at the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Cancun, Mexico in September 2003 and called for an immediate resumption of trade negotiations under the auspices of the WTO.

76. The Conference notes with satisfaction that a meeting on the problem of Cotton was held in Istanbul on 15th June 2004 with a view to exploring ways and means of developing textile industries in the Cotton producing African countries, procuring expertise existing in certain Member States and financial resources attainable in the Islamic Ummah.

77. The Conference called on the international community to put an end to agricultural subsidies, which are prejudicial to producers in developing countries. It welcomed, in particular, the initiative of some African Member States of the OIC to maintain cotton prices and develop their indigenous cotton industry so that the export earnings of the cotton-producing countries are not eroded. It called on Member States and the OIC institutions concerned to support the initiative.

78. The Conference expressed its support for the initiatives taken to promote the basic products of Member States with a view to increasing the added value of such products and the earnings of producers.

79. The Conference stressed the need to devise a coherent and a solid international financial system in order to address the major weaknesses of the present financial system and prevent the spread of any negative repercussions of future financial crises.

80. The Conference commended the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) for its key role in strengthening economic and commercial cooperation among Member States. It also commended H.E. Mr. Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC, for his wise leadership.

81. The Conference hailed the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Turkey in its capacity as Chairman of COMCEC to hold a high-level ministerial meeting, styled OIC Istanbul Economic Conference, that will focus on the enhancement of OIC intra trade and investment to be held concurrently with the 20th Session of COMCEC, which is scheduled to take place in November 2004 in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of COMCEC. It noted, in this connection, the groundwork being made by the host country in cooperation with the General Secretariat and the Islamic Development Bank. It also called upon Member States to actively participate in the high-level ministerial meeting.

82. The Conference stressed the need for a speedy implementation of the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States. It expressed its conviction that a higher level of economic and commercial cooperation among Member States would lay the foundation for greater economic integration that would lead ultimately to the establishment of an Islamic Common Market.

83. The Conference welcomed the entry into force of the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States and the setting up of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC), and noted with satisfaction that the TNC held its first meeting of the First Round of Trade Negotiations among Participating Countries on 6-9 April 2004 in Anatolia, Turkey. It thanked the Republic of Turkey for hosting the First Round of Trade Negotiations under the Agreement, the second meeting of which will be held in September 2004. The Conference also called upon Member States that have not yet done so to sign and/or ratify at an early date the various agreements/statutes finalized under the aegis of the OIC, including the aforesaid Framework Agreement.

84. The Conference renewed its appeal to the international community to fully and expeditiously implement the Program of Action for 2001-2010 adopted by the Third UN Conference on Least Developed Countries held in Brussels in May 2001. It also endorsed the Cotonou Declaration adopted by the Ministerial Conference of Least Developed Countries held in Cotonou, Benin in August 2002.

85. The Conference expressed concern over widespread poverty in least developed countries, which leads to their marginalization in the global economy.

It further affirmed the common objective of Member States to eradicate poverty before the end of the next decade and the need to incorporate micro credit programs into the strategy for poverty eradication.

86. The Conference renewed its call to the international community to significantly reduce the indebtedness of African countries and ensure the fresh flow of substantial funds on concessional terms to these countries. It also appealed for assistance to Member States that are afflicted with drought and natural disasters and also to the Inter-governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).

87. The Conference expressed appreciation for the debt relief initiative called the Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC) and called for its speedy implementation in order to enable more eligible countries to benefit from the initiative.

88. The Conference stressed the major steps taken at the World Food Summit in Rome on 8-13 June 2002, which are aimed at alleviating hunger and achieving food security.

89. The Conference emphasized the role of the private sector in giving added impetus to economic and commercial cooperation among OIC Member States. It further emphasized the role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the industrial development of Member States. It noted, in this connection, the progress made by the OIC Task Force on SMEs in its effort to work out a strategy for the development of such enterprises.

90. The Conference commended the Islamic Development Bank Group's support for development programs in Member States and requested them to harness the various services offered by the Group.

91. The Conference commended the role played by subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions of the OIC that are concerned with economic and commercial matters, namely the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Organization of Islamic Ship Owners' Association, and called on Member States to support their activities.

92. The Conference called for the implementation of the Kuala Lumpur Program of Action for the Development and Promotion of Tourism in OIC Member States, which was adopted by the Second Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Kuala Lumpur in October 2001 and endorsed by the Third Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Riyadh in October 2002. It called on Member States to actively participate in the Fourth Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers to be hosted by the Republic of Senegal on 13-15 December 2004 in Dakar.

93. The Conference condemned the demolition of Palestinian homes, institutions, facilities and land thereby causing huge losses to the Palestinian economy. It expressed deep concern over the disastrous economic repercussions of the Israeli government's ongoing acts of aggression and called for their immediate cessation. The Conference also appealed for assistance to the Palestinian people so as to help them to rebuild their national economy and institutions and establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. In this connection, the Conference commended once again the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its initiative to establish two funds in support of Palestine and for donating USD 250 million to the said funds. The Conference also called for financial assistance for the funds.

94. The Conference strongly condemned Israel's actions and their impact on the environment in the occupied Palestinian and Syrian territories as well as the previously occupied Lebanese territories.

95. The Conference stressed the need for cooperation and effective measures to protect the environment, which is essential for the sustainable development of Member States. Concerning health, the fight against epidemics and narcotics, the Conference called for greater cooperation among Member States to combat the spread of such scourges.

96. The Conference called for a meeting, as soon as possible, of Ministers of Health of Member States on epidemic diseases that affect the respiratory system of humans and also affect animals, plants and the environment. It welcomed, in this connection, the generous offer made by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the above-stated meeting in Tehran. The Conference decided to charge the meeting to supervise the efforts to strengthen cooperation among Islamic States in the field of health, in general including pharmaceuticals.

97. The Conference took note of the programs and deliberations of the Second Meeting of the Consultative Council for the Implementation of the Strategy of Development of Science and Technology in Islamic countries.

98. The Conference reaffirmed the need to exchange expertise in science and technology among Member States and to harness them for peaceful purposes, the good of humanity and the socio-economic development of Member States.

99. The Conference welcomed the establishment of ISESCO's Center for the Promotion of Scientific Research and urges Member States to support it.

100. The Conference commended COMSTECH and ISESCO for their activities and efforts in the service the Islamic Ummah. It therefore requested support for them.

101. The Conference commended the activities of the Islamic University of Technology in Dhaka and urged it to continue its efforts to mobilize human resources which the Member States may need in the fields of science and technology. It urged its Member States to provide financial assistance to the University.

102. The Conference discussed and adopted the resolutions of the First Conference on Science and Technology for Industrial Development held in Kuala Lumpur on 7-10 October, 2003 and hailed Vision 1441H.

103. The Conference adopted the resolutions of the Second Ministerial Meeting on Higher Education and Scientific Research, held in Libya in October, 2003.

104. The Conference adopted the Resolution on Global Cooperation in Polio Eradication Programme among OIC Member States.

105. The Conference stressed that there is a dire need for an in-depth concept of the unity of the Islamic Ummah, and the need to develop and shape its cultural identity since it constitutes a hard core that resists globalization, which is wiping out peoples' idiosyncrasies and threatening their cultural identities.

106. The Conference thanked Member States for their consent to increase their contributions to the budget of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to help implement the projects and plans adopted by the ISESCO's Consultative Council at its previous sessions.

107. The Conference reaffirmed the need to boost the Supreme Council for Education and Culture in the West, which is an Islamic cultural strategy. It called on OIC Member States to provide financial and moral support to the Council through ISESCO.

108. The Conference requested the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study in coordination with Member States so as to safeguard Islamic culture and heritage from the adverse effects of globalization.

109. The Conference called on Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to provide financial support to the World Conference of Interactive Dialogue, which the OIC plans to organize in cooperation with its subsidiary organ, ISESCO as well as UNESCO and ALECSO.

110. The Conference appreciated the remarkable level and significant conclusions of the international fora held by ISESCO in co-ordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the dialogue programs that the fora were assigned to implement during the United Nations Year for Dialogue among Civilizations. It called on them to keep on holding as many of such conferences and fora as possible and urged Member States and Islamic institutions to further assist ISESCO so that it can keep on implementing the dialogue programs, which is a requirement nowadays.

111. The Conference appreciated the scientific standard of the study conducted by ISESCO in coordination with the General Secretariat on its vision and efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations and the publishing of the third revised edition of the White Book, which contains international documents on dialogue among civilizations.

112. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the IDB's efforts to promote Waqf, organize seminars and actively help to invest in and develop Waqf assets.

113. The Conference welcomed the existing co-operation between ISESCO, the General Secretariat of Waqfs, and the World Islamic Charity Foundation in Kuwait to take care of and develop Waqfs, to organize scientific and specialized conferences, and to publish studies and research on the matter in Arabic, English and French.

114. The Conference commended the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO to project the real image of Islam in the Western media.

115. The Conference called on the General Secretariat to take the required steps with Member States to convene a ministerial conference on women, during which an action plan to enhance women's role in the development of the Islamic society will be proposed and to create for them more opportunities in various walks of life.

116. The Conference hailed the part UNICEF played since its inception in protecting children and ensuring their growth all over the world, especially in developing countries. It commended the on-going cooperation between the OIC and UNICEF in the fields of child care and protection in OIC Member States.

117. The Conference called on Member States to combat child trafficking by increasing awareness and building the capacities of law enforcement bodies and establishing centers for the rescue and rehabilitation of victims.

118. The Conference took note of the on-going cooperation between the OIC General Secretariat, UNICEF, ISESCO and the World Bank to convene the First Islamic Conference of Ministers in Charge of Children's Affairs.

119. The Conference welcomed once again the offer of the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the First Islamic Conference of the Ministers of Youth and Sports in cooperation with the Islamic Sports Solidarity Federation.

120. The Conference exhorted Member States, the IDB and Islamic charity institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the Islamic University in Niger because of its annual budget deficit and inadequate resources.

121. The Conference called on Member States and Islamic organizations and personalities to contribute to the Waqf of the Islamic University in Niger, whose statutes were adopted by the 26th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Burkina Faso and urged donors to redouble efforts to achieve such a goal.

122. The Conference welcomed ISESCO's consent to review the University's curricula, award a number of scholarships and printing machines with the standard Quranic typeset, and connect it with a number of Arab and Islamic institutions in order to develop library services and restore its written materials.

123. The Conference commended the Islamic Solidarity Fund for funding most of the annual budget of the Islamic University in Uganda. It thanked the Fund for its significant assistance to the University to settle its debts and arrears. The Conference also appealed to Member States and Islamic organizations to provide further financial and material assistance to the University.

124. The Conference approved the reports and recommendations of the Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the King Fahd Plaza in Uganda and requested the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the recommendations and reports.

125. The Conference welcomed ISESCO's review of the University's 2000-2005 strategy and reaffirmed the need to complete the university's appraisal exercise including the staff regulations. It expressed gratitude to ISESCO for the efforts made.

126. The Conference expressed gratitude to all the organizations, associations, and charity institutions for their material and moral support for the Islamic University in Malaysia, and for their continuous assistance to the Needy Foreign Students Fund. In this connection, it hailed the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the World Islamic Charity Organization in Kuwait, the Iqra' Association and the Rahma Association in Britain for their contributions.

127. The Conference thanked the government of Malaysia for establishing the World Institute for the Unification of Muslims of the University and called on it to continue supporting its activities and programs.

128. The Conference urged the Islamic University in Bangladesh to strengthen bilateral cooperation with renowned universities and institutions of higher education in Member States with a view to enabling its students and professors to pursue their higher studies and research in institutions of their choice.

129. The Conference commended the initiative of the Republic of Tunisia to establish the Higher Institute and Tunis House for Islamic Civilization and Comparative Civilizations and called on Member States, the IDB and Islamic donor institutions to support this significant project.

130. The Conference highly appreciated the Tunisian government's initiative to award scholarships to Muslim students all over the world to study at the Higher Institute of Islamic Civilization of Al-Zaitouna University.

131. The Conference urged Member States to provide financial and moral support to King Faysal University in N'djamena, Chad.

132. The Conference exhorted Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and other Islamic institutions to continue to lend their financial support to the Regional Institute for Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuktu in order to help it attain its goals.

133. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the Africa Muslims' Agency's supervision of the remaining phases of the Islamic Center in Guinea Bissau. It thanked the Islamic Solidarity Fund for providing the funds needed to complete the remaining phases of the project, especially the high school building.

134. The Conference called on Member States to award scholarships to Palestinian students wounded during the Al Quds Al Sharif Intifada as well as to other students from families of martyrs of the Intifada. It also called on universities in Member States to name scholarships after child martyrs of the Intifada and to name one of the scholarships after the martyr Muhammad

Durra. The Conference expressed its appreciation for the Member States that awarded scholarships to the students and called on them to reduce their tuition fees.

135. The Conference expressed deep appreciation and gratitude to the IRCICA for organizing the International Symposium on Islamic Civilization in East Africa in cooperation with the Islamic University of Uganda in Kampala from 15 to 17 December 2003 under the patronage of H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda.

136. The Conference also expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to IRCICA for organizing the international forum on "Mutual Cultural Generosity as a Basis for World Civilization" in Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates in cooperation with the American University in Sharjah from 17 to 19 January 2004 under the patronage of HRH Sheikh Dr. Sultan Ibn Mohamed Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of Sharjah.

137. The Conference commended the IRCICA's efforts to safeguard the cultural heritage and Islamic identity of Muslim communities in Non-OIC Member States and called on it to continue such efforts. It requested Member States and Islamic institutions and personalities to provide it with the support needed to attain such a noble goal.

138. The Conference expressed appreciation to HRH Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for his kind initiative to restructure the Islamic Fiqh Academy so that it can perform the major tasks it is assigned at this critical moment. It called on Member States to continue assisting the Academy and to help it financially and morally to carry out the restructuring exercise.

139. The Conference expressed its determination to preserve the Islamic Solidarity Fund, which is a major Islamic institution and a worthy symbol of Islamic solidarity.

140. The Conference called on Member States to pledge, within their means, annual donations to the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf.

141. The Conference called upon the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue providing assistance to cultural, Islamic and educational projects in the Islamic world, and to attach special attention to projects approved by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

142. The Conference took not of the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund concerning the activities of the Fund. It highly valued the donations made by Member States to the Fund and its Waqf, notably the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its on-going generous donations to the Fund. The Conference expressed thanks for the donations made by High Highness Sheikh Zaid Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates amounting to three million US Dollars for the benefit of the Fund and its Waqf for the financial year 2003-2004.

143. The Conference commended ISESCO for its major achievements in education, science, culture and communication thereby earning it the deep appreciation of beneficiaries in Member States and Muslim communities. The Conference expressed profound appreciation for the Director General's report on ISESCO's activities between the 26th and 27th sessions, which was submitted to the 27th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs. It requested ISESCO to make greater efforts to attain its noble goals.

144. The Conference expressed its sense of pride at the distinguished position that ISESCO occupies on the international scene because of its cooperation with major international organizations, which has helped to expand its activities, to boost its credibility and reputation internationally, to secure huge additional resources, to mould Islamic civilization, and to fully ensure its rebirth. It commended the new cooperation between ISESCO and a number of international, Arab and Islamic organizations, especially UNESCO.

145. The Conference applauded ISESCO's initiative to establish a committee of Muslim experts that would help to restore and maintain destroyed Iraqi monuments, and to formulate a practicable plan for direct intervention in Iraq in coordination with Member States and competent bodies of the Iraqi transitional government and other international stakeholders. It called on Member States and donors to contribute to the ISESCO Fund for the Preservation of Iraqi Heritage, to coordinate efforts in order to counter the trafficking and smuggling of Iraqi antiquities, and to help return found items to Iraqi museums.

146. The Conference highly appreciated the existing cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and UNESCO, particularly in the areas of education, culture, sciences and the preservation of Islamic heritage, and commended the efforts of Mr. Koichiro Matsuura in strengthening the cooperation. It expressed its support for the re-election of Mr. Matsuura for a second term as UNESCO's Director General.

147. The Conference urged Member States that have not yet done so to expeditiously sign and ratify the Convention on the Establishment of the Islamic

Committee of the International Crescent so that it can start its work and achieve its noble objectives. It called on all Member States and Islamic institutions to provide it with material and moral support.

148. The Conference called on the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to put in efforts and protect refugees and prisoners in cooperation with the UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other related regional and international institutions.

149. The Conference expressed gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting the First Islamic Solidarity Games, which will be held in Makkah Al Mukarramah, Medina, Jeddah and Taif in 1426H (2005). It extended special thanks to HRH Prince Sultan Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, President of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee and his deputy, HRH Prince Nawaf Ibn Faysal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz for their keen interest in the preparations for the games.

150. The Conference called on all Member States to give special attention to the First Edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games which will be held in the following Saudi cities of (Makkah, Medina, Jeddah and Taef) in 2005 and to participate in the largest possible number of games.

151. The Conference commended the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Islamic Action for its role in coordinating the various activities of Islamic governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions. It also expressed its satisfaction with the positive decisions taken by the Committee to create a common ground and a coherent vision of Islamic action in the service of Muslims worldwide and safeguard Islam's heritage and brilliant image.

152. The Conference lauded the findings and resolutions of international conferences and symposia on Islamic Culture, Dawa and Civilization organized by the General Secretariat to correct the image of Islamic civilisation to the outside world.

153. The Conference reiterated the need to rise up to contemporary economic, social and scientific challenges facing the Muslim Ummah, and stressed that it is important to come up with ideas for the Expert Committee on Challenges Facing the Muslim Ummah in the Twenty-first Century to perform its tasks in all areas of concern to the leaders and intellectuals of the Islamic Ummah. The Conference urged the members of the Expert Committee to constantly and consciously devise flexible ways of addressing the ever-changing challenges.

154. The Conference emphasized the need to incorporate the joint Islamic action strategy for Dawa into the various education, information, Dawa and other policies of Member States so that it can serve as a guide for joint Islamic action.

155. The Conference approved the recommendations of the Fifth Meeting of the Expert Committee on the Challenges Facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century, which was held in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan from 28 to 30 March 2004.

156. The Conference approved the budgets of the General Secretariat and its subsidiary organs for the 2004/2005 financial year without any increase in the budgets of the General Secretariat and most subsidiary organs.

157. The Conference urged Member States to pay their annual contributions to the budget of the General Secretariat and subsidiary organs for the 2004/2005 financial year.

158. The Conference called on Member States with arrears to expeditiously pay them to the General Secretariat and its subsidiary organs so that they can benefit from the preferential reduction approved by the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia on 5 October 2003.

159. The Conference welcomed the Secretary-General's report on the steps taken to prepare the final study on the "Restructuring of the General Secretariat to Meet the Challenges of the New Millennium".

160. The Conference elected members to the OIC Financial Control Organ for the next two years effective from1/7/2004 to 30/6/2006 in addition to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which is a permanent member of the FCO.

161. The Conference resolved to confine the agenda of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Member States, which is held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York to consultation and coordination of the positions of OIC Member States regarding matters of concern to the OIC and are included in the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly. It also resolved that the conclusions of its proceedings should be in the form of a communiqué agreed upon by the Foreign Ministers of Member States or their representatives.

162. The Conference approved all the recommendations submitted to it by the Expert Group Charged to Study the Review and Rationalization of OIC Agenda Items and Resolutions, and requested Member States and the General Secretariat to implement them immediately.

163. The Conference requested the Secretary-General to further contacts with international and regional organizations in order to establish, maintain and strengthen cooperation with them. It also requested him to conduct a study on how to identify the appropriate areas of cooperation that are of common concern and submit it to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for appropriate decision.

164. The Conference decided to hold the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in the Republic of Yemen at a date to be determined in coordination between the host country and the OIC General Secretariat.

165. The Conference unanimously elected H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, as incoming Secretary-General for a term of four years starting from 1st January 2005. The Conference also elected Assistant Secretaries General namely: H.E. Ezzat Kamel Mufti (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as the host country) for a second term, H.E. Atta El-Manane Bakhit (Republic of the Sudan) for the Arab Group, H.E. Ali Akbar Salehi (Islamic Republic of Iran), for the Asian Group and H.E. Tori Lamagana (Republic of Cameroon) for the African Group, each for a period of four years, starting from 1st July, 2005.

166. H.E. Mr. Abdullah Gul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Session, addressed the closing session and hailed the brotherly spirit that prevailed during the deliberations of the Conference as well as its resolutions. He called for support for the OIC so that it can perform its tasks of promoting joint Islamic action.

167. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Mali and Iran took the floor to express gratitude to the government and people of Turkey for the generous hospitality extended to the delegates and for the arrangements and facilities put at their disposal. They expressed to H.E. Mr. Abdullah Gul their warm congratulations on the wise and skilful way he steered the proceedings.

168. On behalf of all the participants, H.E. Dr. Abdelouahed Belkeziz, Secretary-General of the OIC, addressed a cable of thanks to H.E. Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey for his country's hosting of the Conference and for the facilities extended to the delegates, which highly contributed to the success of the 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex II

Resolutions on the cause of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Islamic boycott of Israel

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-PAL
ON THE
CAUSE OF PALESTINE, THE CITY OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict (Document No.ICFM/31-2004/PAL/SG.REP.1);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC);

Based on the Islamic resolutions on the Cause of Palestine, the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli Conflict;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council, particularly resolutions 242 (1967); 252 (1968); 338 (1973); 425 (1978); 465 (1980); 476 (1980); 478 (1980); 681 (1990); 1073 (1996); 1397 (2002); 1435 (2002); and 1515 (2003) and UN General Assembly resolution194 on refugees, as well as resolutions ES-10/17 and A/ES-10-10 adopted by the 10th Extraordinary Emergency Session of the General Assembly in 2002 on illegal Israeli practices in the occupied Palestinian territories, and the UN General Assembly resolution A/ES-10/L.16 adopted by its 10th Extraordinary Emergency Session requesting the consultative opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the construction of the apartheid wall;

Referring to the UNGA resolution at its 58th Session, under item 38, which reaffirms that the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem, is still under Israeli military occupation;

Referring also to the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Commission relating to human rights violations in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories as well as the resolutions adopted by the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the African Union (AU) and the League of Arab;

Expressing its strong **condemnation** of Israel's persistent and mounting aggressions against the holy places in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the other Palestinian cities, desecration of the holy places and violation of the hall of the blessed Al Aqsa Mosque and aggressing people performing prayer there;

Expressing its strong condemnation of Israel's illegal measures and practices in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif carried out in contradiction with international resolutions and laws with the purpose of judaizing the holy city and eradicating its Arab and Islamic character;

Rejecting the declarations made by the President of the United States George Bush during the joint press conference with the Israeli prime minister on 14/04/2004, and the American letter of guarantees to Israel, which contained dangerous concessions to Israel concerning the final settlement and the mechanism of agreement thereon, which jeopardizes the national rights of the Palestinian people;

Affirming the Islamic States' commitment to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region;

Holding Israel fully responsible for destroying the Middle East peace process on all tracks as a result of the Israeli government's intransigence, its reneging on the foundations of the peace process, especially UN Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the "land for peace" principle, and its failure to comply with the terms of the agreements concluded according to this principle;

Emphasizing that the Israeli policies, practices and expansionist designs threaten not only Arab states and the peace process, but also the Islamic countries at large and jeopardize international peace and security;

Hailing the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their valiant "Intifada" (uprising) aimed at recovering their inalienable national rights;

Resolving to back such efforts by all possible ways and means:

1. **Reaffirms** all the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and Al-Quds Committee concerning the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

2. **Affirms** the necessity of ending the Israeli occupation of the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, and demands the Israeli occupation forces to withdraw from all Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the June 1967 line. The Conference also **stresses** the necessity of establishing the independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, and the implementation of all the international resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian cause and the Middle East, in particular UN Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 1073 (1996) 1397 (2002), and 1515 (2003); and the UN General Assembly resolution 194 on the return of Palestinian refugees, and the Arab initiative and the roadmap as published.

3. **Hails** with great pride the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their legitimate national leadership under the striving President Yasser Arafat against the Israeli aggression, **calls for** the immediate lifting of the siege on the Palestinian people and President Yasser Arafat so that he may move freely within and outside the Palestinian territories, and **condemns** the recent Israeli threats against his life. **Emphasizes** the continuation of providing its political material and moral support to enable the Palestinian people to restore

their national inalienable rights including their right to return, to self determination and to establish their independent Palestinian state on their national land, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

4. **Expresses** its support for the stand of the Palestinian State based on holding fast to the sovereignty of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, including the Holy Haram in that City and that of all the Christian and Muslim holy places and shrines which constitute a part of the Palestinian territories occupied since June 1967; **emphasizes** that Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the capital of the independent State of Palestine and **rejects** any attempt to undermine Palestinian sovereignty over Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

5. **Calls on** the UN Security Council to assume its responsibility in maintaining international peace and security by forcing Israel to put an end to its aggression and State terrorism practiced by its government and military institutions embodied in the killing of civilians, assassination, detention, collective punishment, continued invasion and occupation of cities, villages and refugee camps, destruction of the homes of the Palestinian citizens, demolition of the Palestinian National Authority's institutions, infrastructure and national economy. The Conference **calls for** the necessity of ensuring release of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and **stresses** the need to implement the declaration adopted by the Conference of the Contracting States Parties to the Geneva Convention of 1949 adopted on 05/12/2001.

6. **Calls on** the UN Security Council to send UN peacekeeping forces to the Occupied Palestinian territories in order to ensure the necessary security for the Palestinian people and their sanctities.

7. **Requests** States and international institutions and bodies to abide by the international resolutions on Al-Quds Al-Sharif as an integral part of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied in 1967, and **calls upon** them to refrain from participating in any meeting or activity serving Israel's objectives to strengthen its occupation and annexation of the holy city.

8. **Affirms** its absolute rejection of the declarations of the President of the United States George Bush during the joint press conference with the Israeli prime minister on 14/04/2004, and its disapproval of the American letter of guarantees to Israel, which runs counter to the resolutions of international legitimacy, is in contradiction with the provisions of peace terms of reference, the Arab Peace Initiative, and the Roadmap, and jeopardizes the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, particularly such issues of final settlement as borders, refugees, Al Quds and colonial settlement.

9. **Vehemently rejects** the recent Israeli unilateral plan, and reiterates that no party has the right to cede the national rights of the Palestinians to Israel or to negotiate them on behalf of the Palestinian people and its legitimate and democratically elected leadership.

10. **Reaffirms** the necessity of finding a just solution to the problem of Palestinian refugees in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy, particularly UN General Assembly resolution 194 (1948), and **reiterates** its rejection of all forms of settlement.

11. **Calls upon** the QUARTET to intensify efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East in accordance with the roadmap and the relevant agreements and resolutions, and the foundations of the peace process and the Arab initiative, and to set up a timeline with specified and clear deadlines for the implementation of the roadmap as an indivisible solution. The Conference **rejects** any unilateral measures that run counter to this stand.

12. **Reaffirms** the United Nations immutable responsibility towards the Palestinian cause until a just and comprehensive settlement has been reached in all aspects that would end the occupation, and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights, including the right to return, to self-determination and the right to establish their independent state on their national land with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

13. **Condemns** Israel for building the segregation wall, and **calls upon** the international community to ensure cessation of its construction and removal of the parts that have been constructed in accordance with resolution 13/10 adopted by the Extraordinary Emergency Session of the UN General Assembly in 2003. The Conference warns against the dangerous impacts of the erection of the segregation wall, particularly the fact that it jeopardizes the chances of establishing an independent, sovereign and viable Palestinian State, and warns of a new displacement of the Palestinian citizens under the pressure of harsh living conditions.

14. **Commends** the active participation of the Islamic States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the proceedings of the International Court of Justice on the Israeli apartheid wall; **commends** the other States which made positive petitions as well as participating international bodies at the international campaign for solidarity with the Palestinian people, and values their efforts to end the construction of the apartheid wall.

15. **Condemns** Israel's expansionist colonialist settlement policy and **reiterates** the need for action to stop all colonialist settlement activities and Israeli measures and practices which are contrary to the resolutions of international legitimacy and to the accords signed by the Palestinian and Israeli sides. The Conference **requests** the U.N. Security Council to prevent such measures, remove the Israeli colonial settlements in accordance with Security Council Resolution 465, remove apartheid walls, and revive the International Supervision and Monitoring Committee to Prevent Settlement in Al-Quds and the occupied Arab territories in line with Security Council Resolution 446.

16. **Strongly condemns** Israel for its assassination of the symbols of Palestinian national action, particularly the founder of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Sheikh

Ahmad Yassin, and Dr. Abdulaziz Rantissi, as well as for its threat to continue its liquidation of the leaders of the Palestinian political action.

17. **Condemns** Israel for the excavations around and beneath the blessed Al Aqsa Mosque and for willfully destroying cultural and heritage sites in Nablus and Al-Khaleel (Hebron) in addition to inflicting heavy damage on the Nativity Church which embodies deep-rooted religious, cultural, and historical values; **further condemns** Israel for plundering, removing and sabotaging cultural assets in numerous Palestinian cultural centers and museums; **demands** the international community, the UNESCO and the World Heritage Commission to impose deterrent sanctions on Israel on grounds of the danger it constitutes to the treasures of world heritage.

18. **Reaffirms** the previous resolutions of the Islamic conferences supporting the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and consolidating the steadfastness of its people, and **calls upon** the Member States to lend support to Bait Mal Al-Quds and Al-Quds Fund in order to enable them to perform their missions in safeguarding the Arab, Islamic and civilizational character of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and strengthening the steadfastness of its people in countering the Israeli attempts to judaize the Holy City. It **commends** the efforts of Al-Quds Committee and its Chairman, His Majesty King Mohammad VI in this field.

19. **Condemns** terrorism practiced by Israeli settler gangs against Palestinian civilians; and **holds** Israel fully responsible for the consequences of such aggression, especially that it is taking place in the full glare of the Israeli occupation forces and aided by an atmosphere of incitement against the Palestinian people and institutions encouraged by the Israeli government.

20. **Holds** Israel **fully responsible** for the consequences of its aggression and practices against the Palestinian people, including the responsibility for paying compensation for the material and economic losses sustained by the infrastructure of towns, villages, refugee camps and Palestinian national economy.

21. **Calls Upon** friendly States and the States of the European Union to impose sanctions on Israel for the crimes against humanity and war crimes against unarmed civilians in the occupied Palestinian territories.

22. **Emphasizes** the continuous cessation of all political contacts with the Israeli government as long as the aggression and blockade against the Palestinian people and its National Authority continue, and as long as Israel persists in refusing to implement the relevant UN resolutions, and **calls upon** the Member States which have established relations with Israel and those that have begun to take steps to establish relations with Israel within the context of the peace process to sever these relations, including the closure of any missions or offices, severance of all economic relations, and halt of all forms of normalization with Israel until it meticulously and sincerely implements the UN resolutions on Palestine, Al-

Quds Al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict and until a durable and comprehensive peace is established in the region.

23. **Hails** the Government and people of Lebanon and the Lebanese resistance for their steadfastness, for liberating the Lebanese territories and repelling the Israeli occupation, **supports** Lebanon in its efforts to liberate all its territories up to the internationally recognized borders. **Also demands** the United Nations to force Israel to pay damages for all the losses it inflicted or caused as a result of its continuous aggressions against Lebanon. **Supports** Lebanon in its demands for the removal of the mines left behind by the Israeli occupation, Israel is responsible for laying and removing these mines and for the need to hand over full maps of the location of these mines to Lebanon. **Supports** the inalienable rights of Lebanon to utilize its waters in accordance with the international law and **condemns** Israel's designs on these waters, and **holds** Israel responsible for any action that would infringe upon Lebanon's sovereignty, political independence, safety of its people and integrity of its territories.

24. **Strongly condemns** Israel's refusal to comply with Security Council resolution 497 of 1981 and its imposition of its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, as well as its policies of annexation, building of colonial settlements, confiscation of land, diversion of water sources and imposition of Israeli nationality upon Syrian citizens. The Conference **Considers** all such measures to be null and void and a violation of the provisions and principles of International Law and the International Humanitarian Law, particularly the 4th Geneva Convention of 1949, and **demands** Israel to completely withdraw from the occupied Syrian Golan to the 4 June 1967 lines.

25. **Requests** the international community and the UN Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. resolutions, especially Security Council resolution 487 of 1981, to join the Nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty, implement the resolutions of the General Assembly and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for subjecting all Israeli nuclear installations to the Agency's comprehensive safeguards system. **Emphasizes** the necessity for Israel to declare renunciation of nuclear armament and submit to the UN Security Council and the IAEA a factual statement on its capabilities and stockpile of nuclear weapons and substances, given the fact that those are imperative steps toward making the Middle East a WMD-free area, particularly of nuclear weapons, which is essential to the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

26. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31-PAL ON THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Having considered the item titled "The Occupied Syrian Golan" and Israel's decision of 14-12-1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan;

Having reviewed the repressive measures to which the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan are being subjected and Israel's continued attempts to force them to accept Israeli identity;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences, particularly Resolution 3/30-P of the 30th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Resolution 3/10-P (IS) of the 10th Islamic Summit held in Putrajaya, Malaysia;

Recalling also Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) dated 17-12-1981 and the relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions, latest of which was the one adopted by the Fifty-eighth Session;

Observing that Israel, in contravention of Article 25 of the United Nations Charter, has refused to accept and implement the numerous relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council, in particular resolution 497 (1981) which considered null and void and with no legal consequence Israel's decision to annex the occupied Syrian Golan;

Deeply concerned at Israel's persistent attempts to defy the will of the international community and its reaffirmation of the annexation decisions considered null and void and illegitimate by the international community;

Affirming that the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in times of War (dated 12 August 1949) applies to the occupied Syrian Golan and that setting up settlements and bringing settlers to this area constitutes a violation of this Convention and destruction of the peace process;

Affirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territories by force;

Condemning Israel's non-compliance with the will of the international community by withdrawing from the occupied Syrian Golan which it occupies since 1967 contrary to the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly as well as international law.

Expressing concern over Israel's destruction of the Peace Process which was launched by the Madrid Conference on the basis of the Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, as well as the peace-for-land formula and the risks resulting from Israel's reneging on the commitments and obligations reached,

1. **Lauds** the steadfastness of the Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against the occupation and their valiant resistance to Israel's repressive measures and against the continued attempts to undermine their attachment to their land and to their Syrian Arab identity, and **declares** its support for this steadfastness.

2. **Strongly condemns** Israel for its failure to comply with Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) and **reaffirms** that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan is illegal, null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever and that it constitutes a blatant violation of the UN Charter and its relevant resolutions and of the OIC Charter and resolutions as well as the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in times of war dated 12 August 1949 and relevant provisions of the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, and the rules of international law, in particular the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force.

3. **Strongly condemns** Israel for its persistence in changing the legal status, demographic composition and institutional structure of the Occupied Syrian Golan, and for its policy and practices particularly confiscating lands, appropriating water resources, establishing and expanding settlements and transferring settlers and immigrants thereto, exploiting their natural resources and establishing projects on them, and imposing an economic boycott of the agricultural products of the local population and prohibiting their exportation.

4. **Strongly condemns also** Israel's attempts to impose Israeli nationality and identity cards on the Syrian Arab citizens, as these measures constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Times of War of 1949 and the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other international bodies.

5. **Condemns** repeated Israeli threats against Syria aiming at wrecking the peace process and escalating tension in the region.

6. **Reaffirms** that Israel's continued occupation of the Syrian Golan since 1967 and its annexation of it on 14 December 1981 constitute a permanent threat to peace and security in the region.

7. **Reaffirms also** the right of the Syrian Arab Republic to recover its full sovereignty over the Occupied Golan.

8. **Demands** Israel to fully withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of the 4th of June 1967 in implementation of the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and to immediately begin demarcating that line.

9. **Also demands** Israel to fully respect all the foundations of the peace process as initiated in Madrid consistent with Security Council resolutions Nos. 242 and 338 and the "land for peace" formula and to abide by all the commitments and pledges reached so far.

10. **Demands anew** all states to stop providing Israel with any military, economic, financial, technological or humanitarian assistance that may extend Israeli occupation of Syrian Golan and encourage Israel to pursue its expansionist settlement policy.

11. **Requests** the co-sponsors of the peace process and the international community to assume their responsibilities and compel Israel to implement the resolutions of international legality calling for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 and from other occupied Arab lands, and to immediately start demarcating this line in order to achieve a durable and comprehensive peace in the region.

12. **Declares** its support for the firm position of Syria in its commitment to a durable and comprehensive peace in the region.

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, and to submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-PAL
ON
ISRAEL'S CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF PARTS OF LEBANON AND DETENTION OF LEBANESE CITIZENS IN ITS JAILS AND DETENTION CAMPS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Commending anew the steadfastness of Lebanon and the valor of its national resistance in achieving victory over the Israeli occupation forces and liberating most of its territories in the South and Western Bekaa;

Recalling the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Islamic solidarity with Lebanon to put an end to the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories in the South and West Bekaa;

Noting Israel's continued occupation of parts of Lebanese territories and positions along the Lebanese borders, its incomplete withdrawal from all Lebanese territories back to the internationally recognized borders in accordance with Security Council Resolution 425 (1978) and its continued violation of Lebanese airspace and plundering of their waters and soil;

Deeply concerned at Israel's continued, arbitrary detention of Lebanese citizens in Israeli prisons and camps in flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Times of War of 1949, and the Hague Convention of 1907;

Noting with extreme concern and astonishment the ruling issued by the Israeli Supreme Court to allow the Israeli authorities to keep the Lebanese detainees in Israeli jails as "hostages and a card for compromise, and also to detain them without trial";

Recalling as well the resolutions of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva on the suffering of Lebanese citizens in Israeli jails who experience difficult health and humanitarian conditions resulting in the death of a number of them;

Reaffirming Lebanon's right to compensation for the losses in human life, material damages and substantial economic losses it has sustained as a result of Israel's repeated aggressions against Lebanese citizens and infrastructure, and the ensuing damages and heavy loss of life and property;

1. **Expresses** anew its congratulations and appreciation to the Republic of Lebanon, its President, Government and People and **commends** the valiant Lebanese resistance as well as the admirable Lebanese steadfastness which repelled the Israeli forces from the South of Lebanon and the Western Bekaa.

2. **Strongly condemns** Israel for its continued aggression against the Lebanese territories and its daily violations of the Lebanese sovereignty on the sea, land and airspace.

3. **Also strongly condemns** Israel for its continued occupation of positions on the internationally recognized Lebanese borders, and Lebanese territories, including the Shaba'a farms, in contravention of the provisions of Security Council resolution 425 (1978).

4. **Reaffirms** its commitment to Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and **supports** the position of the Lebanese government which insists on the necessity of ensuring the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all Lebanese territories back to internationally recognized borders and of bringing them under Lebanese sovereignty. **Reaffirms** Lebanon's right to recover every inch of its occupied territories and to reserve the right to resist Israeli occupation by all legitimate means until the liberation of all its territories including the Shabaa farms and **supports** Lebanon's right to its waters in accordance with the International Law against Israeli avaricious designs.

5. **Supports** the Lebanese position calling for maintaining the number of international forces working in Southern Lebanon without decreasing it or changing the nature of their task, especially in the light of the continuing Israeli threats, aggressions, and violations of the sovereignty of the Lebanese territories, air space, and territorial waters and **mandates** the Islamic Group at the United Nations in New York to continue its efforts to mobilize support for the Lebanese position.

6. **Condemns** Israel for laying hundreds of thousands of mines in the Lebanese territories which it had occupied, and which caused, and continue to lead to the death to tens of victims as well as substantial material losses. **Requests** the international community to bring pressure to bear on Israel to hand over all maps of mines in Lebanon and **commends** the initiative of the State of the United Arab Emirates to remove these mines in cooperation and coordination with the Lebanese Government and the United Nations.

7. **Requests** the international community, judiciary and political bodies and Member States to condemn Israel and bring pressure to bear on it to give compensation to Lebanon for the damages caused by Israeli repeated aggressions against Lebanese territories since the establishment of the State of Israel.

8. **Also demands** the international community to take all necessary measures to compel Israel to immediately release all the remaining Lebanese prisoners and abductees detained in Israeli prisons in implementation of the provisions of international law and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and the Hague Convention of 1907, and **urges** Member States and international organizations to exert pressure on Israel to allow representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations to visit Lebanese detainees in Israeli prisons on a regular basis, report on their conditions, and provide them with health and humanitarian care. Requests the adoption of a decision by international organizations, especially, the UN Human Rights Commission to conduct enquiries, imposed by international conventions, into the death of Lebanese detainees in Israeli jails and detention camps, and force Israel to pay compensations to those affected according to prevailing international laws.

9. **Reaffirms** the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and **warns** that settling these refugees in Lebanon and not settling their cause on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy undermines the security and stability of the region and impedes the achievement of a durable and comprehensive peace therein.

10. **Considers** that the achievement of a durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is the appropriate way of achieving security and stability in the region. For this reason, it calls upon the international community, particularly the co-sponsors of the peace process – the United States and the Russian Federation – as well as the European Union to play a more effective role in ensuring the success of the settlement issue in accordance with the Madrid Terms of Reference and the decisions of international legality, particularly Resolutions 242, 338 and 425. **Considers also** that the liberation of Lebanon from Israeli occupation is a

victory for Lebanon, and that it constitutes a part of the liberation of occupied Arab lands which will only be complete when the prompt and complete withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan, back to the 4th of June 1967 borders, is realized and by ensuring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to return, rejecting their settlement outside their homeland, and establishing their independent state on their national territory with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

11. **Mandates** the OIC Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-PAL ON THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Referring to the resolutions of Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of Al-Quds Committee,

Having examined the grave situation resulting from the continued policies of successive Israeli governments' hostile to peace,

1. **Reaffirms** its continued solidarity with the Palestinian people for the recovery of its imprescriptible and inalienable national rights, including its right to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of its independent state on its national territory with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

2. **Reaffirms** the total solidarity of the Islamic States with Syria and Lebanon to confront the continuous Israeli aggressions and threats against them, and **invites** all the Islamic States to express this solidarity in a practical manner and by the use of all means, as well as to stand firm with Syria and Lebanon against any Israeli aggressions targeting them.

3- **Reiterates** its adoption of the Arab peace initiative for settling the issue of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, which was adopted by the 14th Arab Summit held in Beirut (Lebanon) on 28 March 2002; **decides to act** by all means and ways to promote this initiative, state its dimensions and gain international support for its implementation.

4. **Reaffirms also** its commitment to just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on Israel's implementation of the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy, particularly UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and 425 guaranteeing Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, back to the 4th of June 1967 line and from the Lebanese territory still under occupation to the internationally recognized borders as well as securing the Palestinian people's imprescriptible, national rights including the right to return to its homes and properties in line with United Nations General Assembly's Resolution 194 and to establish its independent state on its national territory with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

5. **Strongly condemns** the Israeli government's policy and practices which are hostile to the peace process and are designed to undermine it through the continued colonization of Arab and Palestinian territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and also designed to invalidate the foundations and terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference, and evade the commitments, pledges and agreements reached in the past years of peace talks with the Palestinian and other Arab parties.

6. **Invites** the OIC member states which have already established, or started to take steps to establish relations with Israel in the framework of the Peace Process to sever these relations, including the closing of missions and offices, cutting economic ties and stopping all forms of normalization until Israel meticulously and genuinely implements UN resolutions on the Question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, and until a just and comprehensive peace is established in the region.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-IBO
ON THE
COMMITMENT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS OF THE ISLAMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Proceeding from the Principles and Objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Affirming the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifada (uprising), recognizing their cause as the foremost of all Islamic causes, Recognizing that the boycott of Israel is an effective and legitimate method and a national sovereign right exercised by Islamic countries against Israel to project their national interests and defend just Islamic causes,

Bearing in mind the constructive cooperation and continuous coordination between the Arab and Islamic boycott offices,

Recalling resolution 5/16-adopted by the 16th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez, Kingdom of Morocco from 6 to 10 January 1986, which inter alia adopted the unified Islamic code for the boycott of Israel together with the general principles of the boycott,

Pursuant to all relevant Islamic resolutions, particularly resolution 65/29 adopted by the 29th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Khartoum from 25 to 27 June 2002,

1. Invites Member States to commit themselves to the implementation of the provisions of the Islamic boycott of Israel; to regard as part of their national laws in force legislations, statues and by-laws of the boycott action (The General Principles of Boycott, the Islamic Code the International Regulations of Regional Offices and their regular meeting);

2. Invites Member States who have yet to establish regional offices of Islamic boycott in their countries to do so; and to appoint for those offices directors to be designated as liaison officers who shall liaise with the head office of the Islamic boycott at the General Secretariat;

3. Emphasizes on boycott offices in Arab countries as de jure Sub Islamic Offices and their directors as liaising officers lasing with the principal Islamic boycott office;

4. Decides the continuation of holding regular conferences of liaisons officers on Israeli boycott affairs in Islamic countries to be convened by the Islamic boycott office at the General Secretariats of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

5. Commends the existing cooperation between the Arab and Islamic boycott offices with a view to achieving the utmost effectiveness of the provisions of the boycott of Israel in Islamic countries;

6. Approves the recommendations issued from the meeting of the officials in charge of the Boycott of Israel in Islamic States which was held at the OIC General Secretariat's headquarters in Jeddah on 15 and 16 March 2003;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex III

Resolutions on political affairs

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-P
ON
THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Bearing in mind the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter calling for a consolidation of solidarity and the spirit of Islamic brotherhood among member-States,

Referring to the resolution issued by the tenth OIC Summit at Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 11/10/2003,

Referring to the Declaration emanating from the Special Meeting of the Troika of the OIC Foreign Ministers held in Putrajaya on 22/4/2004,

Affirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of the people of Iraq,

Emphasizing the importance of international support for the security and stability of the Iraqi people,

Pursuant to the conviction and awareness of the feeling of Islamic brotherhood towards Iraq,

1. Welcomes the appointment of the President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq and the establishment of an Interim Government as a beginning for sustained and urgent action to end occupation and to establish a fully sovereign, free and democratic Iraq and to define its political future and national options without any interference whatsoever.

2. Welcomes the announcement by the Interim Government of preparations for the holding of fair and transparent elections according to the timetable set by the UN Security Council resolution 1546/2004 ensuring the completion of the political process and the establishment of a free, democratic and sovereign state.

3. Supports the Interim Iraqi Government's efforts to ensure full control of Iraqi natural resources to improve the living conditions of the Iraqi people and reconstruct State institutions and the national economy.

4. Supports the Interim Government's efforts to ensure full control over its borders and its security in such a manner as serves the stability and security of Iraq.

5. Welcomes UN Security Council Resolution 1546/2004, which was unanimously adopted by the UN Security Council emphasizing the sovereignty of Iraq and the establishment of a sovereign Iraqi government.

6. Condemns the inhuman practices committed against the Iraqi prisoners and detainees in Abu Ghraieb prison, and demands that those responsible be put on trial. It also demands the occupation forces to comply with International Humanitarian Law particularly the 1949 Geneva Convention.

7. Stresses the need for the occupation forces to respect the civil and religious liberties of the Iraqi people and preserve their cultural, religious and historical heritage.

8. Condemns the terrorist acts perpetrated against the Iraqi people, their places of worship, religious sites, police stations and official institutions, including the health, public utility institutions, diplomatic institutions and diplomats, diplomatic personnel and premises, and stresses the responsibility of the occupation forces for protecting the civil and religious rights of the Iraqi people and preserving State institutions.

9. Strongly condemns the kidnapping and assassination acts committed against Iraqis and others, especially those committed against religious leaders, university professors, doctors and intellectuals.

10. Reaffirms its condemnation of the collective assassinations, revealed by the discovery of mass graves, committed by the previous regime in Iraq, against innocents Iraqi, Kuwaiti and other peoples as a crime against humanity, and requests that those responsible for such crimes be put on trial.

11. Appeals to Member States and the international community not to grant safe havens to former officials of the defunct regime and those accused of crimes against the Iraqi and other peoples in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 1483.

12. Welcomes the announcement made by the Interim Government to establish good relations between Iraq and neighboring states based on mutual respect and the principle of non interference in their internal affairs, as well as to abide by the existing treaties and agreements, particularly those relevant to internationally recognized borders and invites Iraq and neighbouring countries to actively cooperate to promote peace and stability in the region, in line with the statements issued in the meetings of the neighbouring countries of Iraq.

13. Appeals to all states of the world to coordinate their efforts in fighting the illegal trade in Iraqi antiquities, heritage and cultural objects and in preventing their

smuggling a appropriation as well as to show willingness to restore stolen pieces and acquisitions wherever they can be located.

14. Urges Member States and international organizations to provide full support and the necessary assistance to the Iraqi people and encourage contributions and efforts for the reconstruction of Iraq.

15. Appeals to all states to contribute to the alleviation of the financial burden on Iraq by writing off Iraqi debts as an expression of their support and as a contribution to the reconstruction of the country.

16. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Reaffirming the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus who constitute an integral part of the Islamic world;

Reiterating its call on the two parties in Cyprus to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status;

Reiterating also its continued support for the efforts of the UN Secretary-General under his mission of good offices towards a settlement;

Recalling its support to the Statement of the UN Secretary-General of 12 September 2000, emphasizing that in Cyprus each side represents itself and no one else; where the Greek Cypriots do not represent the Turkish Cypriots.

Welcoming in this context the willingness shown by the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey for a political and viable settlement by taking a new initiative at the beginning of 2004;

Recalling that in nearly four decades since the establishment of UNFICYP, a unique opportunity presented itself when the UN Secretary-General finalized, with the active participation of the relevant parties, and presented a carefully balanced plan for the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue on 31 March 2004;

Emphasizing in this regard that the UN settlement plan, in line with the resolutions of the OIC, respected the principle of equal political status of the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot sides, acknowledging that neither side may claim authority or jurisdiction over the other;

Also emphasizing that the Plan aimed to establish a new state of affairs in Cyprus, in the form of a new bi-zonal partnership with two equal constituent states;

Welcoming the sustained efforts of the UN Secretary-General in preparing and finalizing a comprehensive settlement plan that meets the core interests and concerns of two sides in Cyprus;

Taking note of the results of the simultaneous referenda held separately on 24 April 2004 in both sides of Cyprus; and deeply regrets that contrary to international calls, the Greek Cypriot side overwhelmingly rejected the UN settlement plan, whereas the Turkish Cypriot side approved the plan with a clear majority for the reunification of the Island and the EU membership;

Applauding the Turkish Cypriot people for their decision in exercise of their inherent constituent power in response to the call made by the UN Secretary-General;

Noting the desire of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus to fully integrate with the International Community, whereas they are left in isolation as the victim of an outcome in which they have no fault;

Considering that the massive arms build-up and the establishment, as well as continuing construction of air and naval bases by the Greek Cypriot side constitute a threat to peace and stability in the Island and the region;

Recalling its Resolution No. 14/10-P(IS) adopted at the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference which decided the enhancement of the participation of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus in the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Expressing its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim People of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement;

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Cyprus contained in document ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.2

1. Reaffirms the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to govern, exploit, oppress or threaten the other.

2. Acknowledges that a new situation has emerged in Cyprus following the referenda on 24 April 2004, which necessitates a fresh and comprehensive assessment of the Cyprus issue.

3. Welcomes the statements and calls made by the UN Secretary-General, international organizations and states, as well as decisions taken by various international organizations for ending the isolation of the Turkish Cypriots; and calls upon the international community to take immediate concrete steps to that end.

4. Urges the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus, closely associating with them, and with a view to helping them materially and politically to overcome the inhuman isolation which has been imposed upon them, to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular direct transport, trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports contacts.

5. Decides to actively support, until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus for the right to be heard and represented in all international fora on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out the necessary contacts with the Islamic Development Bank with a view to seeking the ways and means of the latter's assistance for the development projects of the Turkish Cypriot side.

7. Decides to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Cypriot side of Cyprus for full membership of the OIC.

8. Further decides that the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus should continue to participate in the work, activities and meetings of all OIC organs under the name envisaged by the UN Secretary- General's settlement plan.

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this Resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004), Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and resolutions adopted by the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference on the situation in Somalia;

Commending the unflagging interests taken by Islamic leaders in the issue of Somalia, embodied in the action taken by H.E. Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti, H.E. Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan, H.E. Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic of Yemen, with a view to achieving security and national reconciliation in Somalia;

Commending the support extended by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar for covering the expenses of the conference on Somali National Reconciliation in Djibouti, as well as the assistance provided by the State of Qatar to the new Somali Government with a view to consolidating security and stability in Somalia as well as the assistance provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz.;

Noting with satisfaction the intensive efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, in cooperation with the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the Inter-governmental Development Authority and the African Union, in the framework of joint approach, which has produced positive results;

Taking note of all relevant Security Council Resolutions on Somalia;

Commending the tremendous efforts made by the international community in providing relief and humanitarian assistance to the victims of war and famine in Somalia through effective and coordinated efforts under the auspices of the Security Council;

Commending the great success of the Artah Conference in Djibuti which had been organized by the latter;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.3);

1. **Reaffirms** its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia.

2. **Invites** Member States to support the legitimacy of Somalia as represented by the elected Somali government, which gained the confidence of the Somali parliament in accordance with the provisional national charter drawn up by the Artah Conference in the Republic of Djibouti, and **calls on** neighbouring states not to shelter or help opposition elements to national

reconciliation in Somalia, or to provide them with weapons, pursuant to Security Council resolutions.

3. **Makes** an urgent appeal to all Somali leaders to accept the results of the Artah Conference in Djibouti, in fulfillment of the higher interests of the Somali people and in consideration of the resolutions of this conference as the basic pillars on which the ongoing Kenyan conference is based.

4. **Express its appreciation** to the Member States which have provided relief and humanitarian assistance to the Somali people and urges them to continue this action. It calls on all states to extend emergency support to the Somali government in order to establish security and stability, pursue national reconciliation and build the basic structures of the central government.

5. **Appeals** to the international community, in general, the OIC Member States in particular, and the regional humanitarian organisations and institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, as well as the IDB and the ISF, to shoulder their humanitarian and solidarity obligations and extend financial assistance and in kind to the Republic of Yemen and the Republic of Djibouti in order to help them overcome the economic and social impacts resulting from continuous flows of thousands of refugees, also to help improve the conditions of sheltering them, and provide the necessary capabilities for their safe return to their homeland.

6. **Urges** Member States to contribute financially to facilitate the traveling of tribal elders and leaders of the Somali civil society to Kenya in order to participate in the ongoing peace conference to select the members of the Transitional Parliament.

7. **Invites** the international community, especially the Member States, to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Somalia in order to enable Somalia to rebuild the institutions and the economic infrastructures and the rehabilitation of the various stages of education.

8. **Also calls upon** all Somali leaders to remain committed to the results of the "Artah Conference" (Djibouti) in order to reach a peaceful solution to the Somali problem and start national reconstruction.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to participate actively in the consultations on Somalia by coordinating the Organization's work with those of other concerned international organizations, in particular IGAD, the Arab League, the African Union and the United Nations; to mandate the special envoy to follow-up this issue; to participate in the Kenyan Conference alongside other regional and international organizations and to use his good offices to get all Somali leaders to join the Somali reconciliation Wagon based on the outcomes of the Artah Conference in Djibouti.

10. **Welcomes** the results reached by the meeting of the Contact Group on Somalia held in Jeddah in 2004; recommends to the Group to continue its mission and calls on the Member

States of the Group to participate in its meetings at the highest level as well as to sup
activities of the General Secretariat aimed at supporting the legitimate Somali authorities.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this re
and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of
Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-P
ON
JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISPUTE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Se
Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabi*
1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of th
Conference which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the people of the Islamic

Emphasizing the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and recalling
resolutions relevant to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute which remain unimplemented;

Recalling that the Simla Agreement signed between the Governments of India and
calls for a final settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issues;

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples
determination enshrined in the Charters of the OIC and the United Nations and reaffirm
Millennium Declaration of the UNGA, September 2000;

Recalling the Special Declarations on Jammu and Kashmir adopted by the Sevent
of the Islamic Summit Conference and the extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summi
Casablanca in 1994 and Islamabad in 1997 and all previous OIC resolutions on the Ja
Kashmir dispute;

Expressing concern at the alarming increase in the indiscriminate use of force
violations of human rights committed against innocent Kashmiris;

Regretting also that the Government of India has not responded varourably so
offer of the Good Offices Mission made by the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Conf
Foreign Ministers and renewed by the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Sessio
Islamic Summit Conference;

Further regretting that the OIC Fact Finding Mission was not allowed to visit Indian held Jammu and Kashmir;

Noting the rejection of Indian sponsored elections including the recent one, by the Kashmiri people demonstrated through their successful boycott of the elections;

Condemning the restrictions on the freedom of movement of the APHC leaders;

Regretting India's rejections to hold tripartite talks between Pakistan, India and the Kashmiris;

Noting with regret the Indian attempt to malign the legitimate Kashmiri freedom struggle by denigrating it as terrorism;

Appreciating that the Kashmiris condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations including state sponsored terrorism;

Taking note of the Memorandum submitted by the True Representatives of Jammu and Kashmir;

Noting the reports of the Ministerial and Summit Meetings of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir and endorsing the recommendations contained therein;

Encouraging and supporting the dialogue between Pakistan and India aimed at resolving all outstanding issues including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;

1. **Calls for** a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement.

2. **Condemns** the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmir people and calls for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination.

3. **Calls upon** Member States to take necessary steps to persuade India to respect the human rights of the Kashmiri people and to cease massive human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council

4. **Affirms** that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of Kashmir as provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions and reaffirmed in the Millennium Declaration of the UN General Assembly.

5. **Calls upon** India to allow International Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

6. **Supports** the ongoing efforts of the Government of Pakistan to seek a peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute through all possible means including substantive bilateral talks with India. In this context, **calls** for serious negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the will of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

7. **Notes with appreciation** the positive developments in Pak-India relations ensuing from Pakistan's unilateral decision of cease fire along LOC.

8. **Affirms** that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

9. **Appeals** to the Member States, OIC and other Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

10. **Requests** the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to provide the necessary financial resources to establish a number of technical vocational centers in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir region so as to create employment opportunities for Kashmiri refugees; also requests them to provide some scholarships for Kashmiri youth in Islamic universities as well as in Pakistani universities; and entrusts the General Secretariat to submit appropriate proposals.

11. **Urges** the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference as well as **requests** the Secretary-General to establish contact with the Governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

12. **Appreciates** the efforts made by the Secretary-General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requests him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative on Jammu and Kashmir.

14. **Welcomes** the visit of the four member Fact Finding Mission to Azad Jammu and Kashmir from 21 to 24 April 2003, sent by the Secretary-General, in accordance with

the decision of the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers in New York in 2000 and 2002 and the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers in New York in 1998, Twentieth, Twenty first, Twenty second, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eight, Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers as well as the Seventh Extraordinary session and the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference, and to submit a report to him.

15. **Appreciates** the full cooperation extended by the Government of Pakistan and the Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir to the four member Fact Finding Mission sent by the Secretary-General to visit Azad Jammu and Kashmir from 21 to 24 April 2003.

16. **Requests** the Government of India to allow the OIC Fact Finding Mission to visit the Indian held Jammu and Kashmir, which is essential for the full implementation of the mandate of the Mission.

17. **Recommends** that Member States continue to coordinate their positions and to take action at the UN General Assembly and the commission on Human Rights and other relevant international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. **Commends** the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir and mandates the Group to meet regularly along side the session of the UN General Assembly, the UN Commission on Human Rights Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to muster the support of the international community for safeguarding the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people.

19. **Requests** the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to continue its efforts for promoting the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

20. **Decides** to consider the Jammu and Kashmir Dispute at the 31st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

21. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-P
ON
THE PEACE PROCESS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the principles and purposes of the UN as well as OIC Charter;

Recalling the OIC Summit and Ministerial Resolutions on the security and solidarity of Islamic States which affirm that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries;

Recalling also the relevant OIC Declarations and Resolutions expressing solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and support for the just struggle of Kashmiri people for their fundamental human rights including the right of self-determination;

Welcoming in this context, the resumption of a composite dialogue between Pakistan and India with a view to promoting normalization of bilateral relations;

Recognizing the centrality of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir to the process of full normalization of relations between Pakistan and India;

Bearing in mind the need for seeking durable and just solution of all issues under the dialogue including the issue of Jammu and Kashmir to the satisfaction of both Pakistan and India as well as the people of Jammu and Kashmir;

Acknowledging that peace and stability between Pakistan and India will lead to sustained prosperity for the peoples of South Asia;

1. **Strongly** supports the ongoing peace process between Pakistan and India and commends Pakistan for its continued efforts to create and sustain an enabling environment for a composite dialogue with India.

2. **Notes** the adoption of a roadmap for talks by Pakistan and India in February 2004 which, inter-alia, includes dialogue on Jammu and Kashmir and peace and security.

3. **Supports** various confidence-building measures taken by both Pakistan and India including people-to-people contacts between the two countries.

4. **Expresses** satisfaction at the bilateral understanding to observe ceasefire on the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir.

5. **Stresses** the importance of continuing discussions on mutually acceptable confidence-building measures (CBMs) on peace and security covering both conventional and non-conventional fields.

6. **Requests** Pakistan and India to consider enhancing the role of UNMOGIP and other impartial observers along both sides of the LoC to further strengthen existing CBMs.

7. **Expresses deep concerns** about the continued suppression of the political aspirations of the Kashmiri people, including their right to self-determination.

8. **Deplores** the continued human rights violations in the Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir.

9. **Urges** the Indian authorities to end the violence in the Indian-held Kashmir, and the military and police operations against the Kashmiri people, and the violation of their human rights.

10. **Calls on** the Indian authorities to:

a) Release all political prisoners in Jammu and Kashmir;
b) Initiate judicial proceedings against those involved in human rights violations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir;
c) Allow un-hindered political activities in Jammu and Kashmir including visits abroad by Kashmiri leaders for consultations;
d) Allow international humanitarian assistance to affected Kashmiris especially women and children including through the OIC, ICRC and the UN Organization;
e) Allow access to international human rights organizations and the media to all parts of Jammu and Kashmir to ascertain and monitor the human rights situation;

11. **Renews** its call on India to allow the OIC Fact Finding Mission to visit the Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir.

12. **Calls upon** the international community including the United Nations to closely monitor the situation inside the Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir and the dialogue process between Pakistan and India.

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General and the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to remain seized of the developments of the situation.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/31-P
ON THE
SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Pursuant to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences, which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic Ummah;

Emphasizing the right of all peoples to chose their political, economic and social systems without any form of foreign intervention, coercion or pressure;

Recalling the principled stand adopted by the Islamic Conference in its resolutions on Afghanistan since January 1980 which call for safeguarding the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Afghanistan;

Taking note of all UN resolutions on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security;

Welcoming the establishment of the Afghan Interim Administration, pursuant to the Agreement signed in Bonn on 5 December 2001, and welcoming further the convening of Loya Jirga and the establishment of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan;

Reiterating the extreme importance of helping Afghanistan to pass through the current transitional phase towards sustainable development, rehabilitation, reconstruction and elimination of various remnants of the civil war;

Reiterating also the importance of international support for rebuilding the Afghan society and its infrastructure through the rehabilitation of its vital nation building institutions;

Recognizing the importance of the return of Afghan refugees and displaced people to their homes, and their reintegration in their homeland;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan (Doc. No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.5);

1. **Welcomes** the establishment of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan and supports the process of the Loya Jirga leading to the establishment of Transitional Administration, wishing it success in fulfilling the aspirations of all Afghan people to establish a durable and

representative government and promote security, stability as well as comprehensive and sustainable development.

2. **Welcomes** also the efforts made by the Government and the people of Afghanistan to rebuild their country and commend their achievement.

3. **Commends** the constructive efforts of the UN including the presence of the ISAF in Kabul as envisaged in Bonn Agreement to assist the people of Afghanistan in bringing back peace and normalcy to their country.

4. **Welcomes** the efforts for the expansion of the ISAF mandate to the whole of Afghanistan, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1510.

5. **Expresses** its gratitude and appreciation for the initiative of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar and Chairman of the 9th Islamic Summit Conference, on the establishment of a Fund to assist the people of Afghanistan, and on the hosting by the State of Qatar of the donors' Conference for this Fund in November 2002, where a Board of Trustees was elected and the commencement of the Fund's operation announced; calls on Member States who have donated to remit their donations and appeals to all Member States to donate in favour of this Fund so that it would achieve its noble objective of assisting the Afghan people.

6. **Welcomes** the convening of an international conference on "Afghanistan and Regional Economic Cooperation: Central Asia, Iran and Pakistan", held in Bishkek in May 2004 to discuss the relations between regional states and Afghanistan.

7. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Islamic Development Bank for having prepared and submitted to the OIC General Secretariat a progress report on the contribution of the IDB for the reconstruction of Afghanistan and rehabilitation of its infrastructure.

8. **Calls upon** OIC Member States to extend their support and assistance to the forthcoming elections to be held in September 2004.

9. **Appeals** to the international community to step up its assistance so as to alleviate the pressing needs of Afghanistan and fulfill expeditiously its financial commitments announced at the International Donor Conferences for the Reconstruction of Afghanistan, held in Tokyo in January 2002 and in Berlin in March 2004.

10. **Appeals also** to international community and relevant UN Agencies to extend assistance to Afghan refugees and displaced persons in Afghanistan and to ensure their voluntary return to their homes and reintegrate them in their society in full security and dignity.

11. **Calls upon** the international community to increase its assistance to enhance the effo the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan to curb the plantation of opium poppies, produ and trafficking of narcotics and to strengthen crop substitution programme in Afghanistan.

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resol and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministe

RESOLUTION NO. 7/31-P
ON
SOLIDARITY WITH THE REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Sessi Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling all the relevant Islamic resolutions, in particular Resolution No. 20/9-P adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit and Resolution No. 19/29-P adopted Twenty-eighth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on supporting S efforts to achieve national unity, peace, development and to safeguard its identity, and c heritage;

Taking note that Sudan continues to face external threats targeting its unity, stabili territorial integrity and to be subjected to mobilization of public opinion and negative cam by some hostile circles,

Commending the continuing efforts and serious endeavours made by the Governm the Republic of the Sudan to achieve lasting peace and the positive development accomplis the ongoing negotiations between the government and the rebel movement aimed at sig comprehensive a just agreement that will achieve peace and stability in the country;

Expressing its deep appreciation for the efforts made by the Arab Republic of Egy Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, IGAD, and the Arab League to achieve na harmony and peace in the Sudan;

Recalling resolutions 22/51 and 17/51 of the United Nations General Assembly unilateral economic sanctions imposed by Member States on other countries, recallin resolutions 15/8-P (IS) and 44/26-P adopted by the 26th Session of the Islamic Confere Foreign Ministers on the decision of the United States of America to impose unilateral ec sanctions on Sudan;

Welcoming Security Council resolution 1372 of 28 September 2001 on the lifting of international sanction of Sudan, about which the Secretary-General received a letter of appreciation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sudan for the support of the Member States to the Republic of Sudan in recording this achievement;

Expressing its commendation and appreciation for the efforts of the Republic of Sudan in raising the ideals of human rights, which have crowned its efforts to drop the resolution on the situation of the human rights in Sudan at the 53rd Session of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva on 16.4.2003. Taking into account the letter dispatched by the Foreign Minister of the Republic of the Sudan to the Secretary-General containing Sudan's appreciation for the support of the Member States to the Republic of Sudan in recording this achievement;

Taking note with appreciation the positive testimony of the American Administration in the Congress on 21.4.2003 and 21-4-2004 on the future of peace in the Republic of the Sudan and stressing the seriousness of the Government and the movement in the efforts to enthrone peace in the country;

Appreciating the hosting by the Republic of the Sudan of a large number of refugees of neighbouring countries and the slowness of their voluntary return their countries due to the persistence of the conditions that led to their seeking refuge, and its efforts to shelter and care for them and to facilitate the voluntary return to their countries;

Further appreciating the damage inflicted on the infrastructure, including roads, bridges, electricity, water and the projects of vital services such as schools and hospitals during the years of war in Southern Sudan, and the consequent cessation of the projects of development and reconstruction and displacement of thousands of citizens from the war areas to other areas in the Republic of the Sudan.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Solidarity with the Sudan (Doc. No.ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.6);

1. **Stresses** its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile plans against it and defending its unity, territorial integrity.

2. **Commends** the continuous endeavours of the Government of the Sudan to achieve national harmony, to reach the Framework Agreement and stop hostilities between the Government and the rebel movement, to reach the agreements on security and military arrangements and on wealth sharing, and commends the positive developments in the ongoing peace talks in Nevasha, Kenya.

3. **Supports** the earnest and continuous efforts of the Republic of Sudan to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace agreement and welcomes the signing by the Sudanese Government of the Six Protocols with settled all remaining contentious issued and paved the way

for the signing of a final peace agreement in July 2004 and put an end to the long –lasting war i southern Sudan.

4. **Invites** the United States of America to lift the unilateral sanctions imposed agains the Republic of the Sudan, which will carry forward peace and strengthen the Government' efforts to create development and achieve stability in the country.

5. **Requests** the General Secretariat for the speedy implementation of the resolution o the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia, in October 2003, calling for th establishment of a reconstruction fund and the development of the parts of the Republic of Suda affected by war, also calls on Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and financi institutions to contribute to the reconstruction fund adopted by the Tenth Islamic Summit.

6. **Urges** the Islamic Development Bank and financial institutions in Islamic countri to support to development projects in areas affected by war in the Sudan and invites investo from Islamic countries to organize a conference to promote investment in Sudan.

7. **Appeals** to Member States and international donors to extend assistance that appropriate to the numbers of refugees in Sudan neighbouring countries, to contribute actively the programme of the voluntary to their countries, and enthronement of stability of displac Sudanese as a result of the war.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resoluti and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Forei Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/31-P
ON
THE SECURITY AND SOLIDARITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Tha 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Recalling also the resolve of Member States expressed in accordance with the Charter the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal pea which ensures security, freedom and justice for their people and all peoples throughout the worl

Mindful of the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, especially the objectives of promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening their capacity to safeguard their security, sovereignty, independence and national rights;

Stressing the right of Member States, individually and collectively to maintain their national security, sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on this subject;

Recalling also resolution 44/51 of the UN General Assembly entitled "Protection and Security of Small States" adopted by the 44th Session of the UN General Assembly in 1989;

Reaffirming the importance of the establishment of peace and security in the Islamic world and the consolidation of the climate of mutual confidence, cooperation and solidarity between the Islamic countries;

Reaffirming also the right of member States to preserve their national security, political independence and territorial integrity and unity as well as their inherent right of self-defense in accordance with Article (51) of the UN Charter;

Taking into account the rapid and profound changes taking place in the system of international relations and their impact on different regions and states throughout the world and particularly across the Islamic world;

Expressing its deep concern at the continued occupation of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif and of the other Arab territories and the continued denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people which constitutes a serious threat to the security of Islamic States and the world peace;

Also expressing its deep concern at the threats to the security of Member States and the increased number of crises and conflicts affecting Islamic countries and peoples as well as at the threats and challenges to the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah in all spheres of life and reaffirming the necessity to safeguard the Islamic values and identity;

Recalling the provisions of the Dakar and Tehran Declarations adopted by the Sixth and Eighth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference which affirms the resolve of Member States to contribute actively towards the establishment of a New International Order based on peace, justice and equality and respect for international legality and capable of guaranteeing progress for all;

Determined to vigorously oppose foreign domination, threat, aggression and alien occupation, which result in the limitation of the freedom of member States to determine their own political systems and pursue economic, social and cultural development without any coercion, intimidation and pressure from outside;

Emphasizing the absolute right of each Member State to preserve its natural resources and to use them for the benefit, welfare and progress of its people;

Taking Note of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.7);

1. **Reiterates** that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries.

2. **Reaffirms further** the determination of Member States to encourage the initiatives aimed at building confidence and security at the bilateral and multilateral or sub-regional and regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration wherever and whenever appropriate;

3. **Recognizes** that small states are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs.

4. **Expresses its firm determination** to strengthen security of Member States, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration.

5. **Reaffirms** the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples over their natural resources and economic activities.

6. **Expresses** the firm determination of the Member States to preserve and promote Islamic values in all spheres of life especially those of solidarity and mutual respect;

7. **Rejects** categorically the so-called right for humanitarian intervention whatever its origin and form, as it is against the provisions of the UN Charter as well as international law.

8. **Reaffirms** the need for respect of the principles of international law concerning the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-use of force or threat of use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States as essential prerequisites for the security of Islamic States.

9. **Appreciates** the intensive work done by the Inter-governmental Expert Group on security and solidarity among Islamic States and calls on Group to continue to follow up developments in this regard and also calls on the Member States to effectively participate in the work of the Group.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/31-P
ON
THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling all relevant Islamic resolutions, in particular resolution No. 36/8-P(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the problem of Refugees;

Commending the existing cooperation between United Nations High Commission (UNHCR) and the OIC;

Deeply concerned over the plight of refugees in many parts of the world, most of whom are members of the Islamic community;

Reaffirming the solidarity of Member States with the countries hosting the refugees, and thus assuming immense political, economic and social burdens, in a spirit of Islamic brotherhood and in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Convinced that such a solidarity is dictated by the principles of brotherhood and burden-sharing, as well as the defense of human rights and human dignity, which are deep-rooted in the Islamic heritage and tradition;

Recalling the mandate of the UNHCR and the pivotal role of the UN 1951 Convention on Refugees in providing protection and adequate care to refugees;

Recalling also the responsibility of all states to extend their timely and adequate assistance to Member States hosting refugees to reduce the heavy burden they are shouldering in a spirit of international solidarity and burden sharing;

Noting with deep concern the declining levels of international assistance extended to the countries hosting refugees to help them to continue providing assistance to refugees;

Emphasizing that the OIC can mobilize more funds to assist the refugees in th
countries States through the hosting countries;

Fully convinced that the lasting most preferred solution of for the refugee proble
in providing favourable conditions for their return to their homelands in safety and dignit

Taking Note of the Report of the Secretary-General (Document No.
2004/POL/SG-REP.8);

1. **Expresses its appreciation** to Member States, donor countries, the UNHCR,
specialized agencies, and other humanitarian institutions of the valuable assistance they
refugees in Islamic countries.

2. **Expresses also** its deep appreciation to countries hosting refugees of their
assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as presen
numbers of displaced persons.

3. **Reaffirms its deep concern** over the far-reaching effects of the existence of
refugees in Islamic States and particularly over those effects related to the concerned
security, stability and infrastructures, which adversely affects their economic a
development.

4. **Calls on** Member States, to coordinate their action at international level with
determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other cou
strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their hom
as circumstances permit.

5. **Calls on** Member States who have not acceded to the 1951 Convention t
accession to the Convention given its continued relevance as the main universal ins
refugees protection.

6. **Takes note** of the report of the First Meeting of the Governmental Experts Gr
issue of refugees in the Islamic world, and **calls** on the Group to continue its work ar
inter alia the expeditious convening in coordination with the UNHCR of a Ministerial
in 2005 to address the problem of the refugees in the Muslim world.

7. **Urges** Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assist
Islamic countries hosting refugees given the economic and social difficulties cau
presence of such refugees living in their territories.

8. **Urges** the international community to actively support and facilitate the ongoing
voluntary repatriation and successful reintegration of returnees in order to ensure the d
their return.

9. **Calls on** Member States to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the sufferings of those refugees in Islamic countries.

10. **Urges** non-Member States to create better conditions for their Muslim communities and minorities, so that they are not forced to escape or driven out as refugees as a result of religious, ethnic or racial oppressions.

11. **Condemns** all acts of repression against the refugees, including armed attacks on their camps and pressures on the countries hosting them.

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue to closely liaise with the hosting countries and cooperate and coordinate with the UNHCR with a view to intensifying the efforts of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the alleviation of the plight of the refugees in the Muslim World.

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/31-P
ON
THE AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Gravely concerned over the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan which has resulted in the occupation of more than 20% of Azerbaijani territory;

Deeply distressed over the plight of more than one million Azerbaijani displaced persons and refugees resulting from Armenian aggression and magnitude and severity of humanitarian problems;

Reaffirming all previous relevant resolutions and, in particular, the resolution No. 21/9-P(IS), adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Urging strict adherence to the Charter of the UN and full implementation of Security Council resolutions;

Welcoming all diplomatic and other efforts for the settlement of the conflict;

Reaffirming all Member States respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Noting also the destructive influence of the policy of aggression of the Republic of Armenia on the peace process in the OSCE framework;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.9).

1. **Strongly condemns** the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan.

2. **Considers** the actions perpetrated against civilian Azerbaijani population in occupied Azerbaijani territory as crimes against humanity.

3. **Strongly condemns** looting and destruction of the archeological cultural and religious monuments on the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

4. **Strongly demands** the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, and the immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azerbaijani territories including Nagorno-Karabakh region and strongly urges Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

5. **Expresses its concern** that Armenia has not yet implemented demands contained in the UN Security Council resolutions.

6. **Calls on** the UN Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan; take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and decides to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

7. **Urges all** States to refrain from providing any supplies of military arms and equipment to Armenia, in order to deprive the aggressor of any opportunity to escalate the conflict and to continue the occupation of the Azerbaijani territories. The territory of Member States should not be used for transit of such supplies.

8. **Calls upon** Member States, as well as other members of the international community, to use such effective political and economic measures as required in order to put an end to Armenian aggression and to occupation of the Azerbaijani territories.

9. **Calls for** a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers.

10. **Decides** to instruct the Permanent Representatives of Member States at the United Nations in New York, while voting at the UN General Assembly, to give absolute support to the issue of territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

11. **Urges** Armenia and all Member States of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing OSCE peace process on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and relevant OSCE decisions and documents, including those of the First Additional Meeting of the OSCE Council of 24 March 1992, OSCE Summit of 5-6 December 1994, OSCE Summits of 2-3 December 1996 and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

12. **Expresses its full** support for the three principles of the settlement of the armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan contained in the statement of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office at the 1996 Lisbon OSCE Summit, namely the territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan, highest degree of self-rule of the Nagorno-Karabakh region within Azerbaijan and guaranteed security for this region and its whole population.

13. **Stresses** that fait accompli may not serve as a basis for a settlement, and that neither the current situation within the occupied areas of the Republic of Azerbaijan, nor any action, including arranging voting process, undertaken there to consolidate the status quo, may be recognized as legally valid.

14. **Considers** the proposal made by the OSCE Minsk Conference Co-chairmen aimed at the staged settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan armed conflict as the basis for the negotiations within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group and expresses its understanding that this approach is to ensure immediate elimination of the most serious consequences of the aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to communicate the OIC's principled and firm position vis-à-vis the Armenian aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan, to the current Chairman of the European Organization for Security and Cooperation.

16. **Reaffirms** its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country.

17. **Calls** for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity.

18. **Expresses its appreciation** to all Member States which have made humanitarian assistance to the refugees and displaced persons and urges all the others to extend their contributions to these people.

19. **Expresses its concern** over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan and requests the OIC Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

20. **Considers**, that Azerbaijan has the right for appropriate compensation with regard to damages it suffered, and puts the responsibility for the adequate compensation of these damages on Armenia.

21. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/31-P
ON THE REJECTION OF THE UNILATERAL U.S. SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

- Recalling the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

- Recalling the aims and principles enunciated in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, especially those calling for the consolidation of solidarity among the Islamic states and for strengthening their ability to protect their security, sovereignty, independence and national rights;

- Recalling the two UN General Assembly resolutions 22/51 and 17/51 concerning the economic sanctions imposed by some UN members, in isolation, against other members;

- Expressing surprise and concern over the adoption by the American Congress of the Bill on the Accountability of Syria, and the executive order signed by the US president on 11/ 5/2004 imposing unilateral sanctions, outside international legitimacy;

- Having been informed of the proclamations, declarations and resolutions issued by the various international fora and non-government organizations which express the rejection by the international community of the forcing by one state of its national legislation on the rules of international law on the pretext of the sovereignty and interests of states and their peoples;

- Noting that the imposition of arbitrary unilateral laws contradicts the regulations and directions of the World Trade Organization which prohibits the adoption of measures likely to hinder international free trade and shipping;

- Expressing surprise that the US bill was adopted against a key Arab and Mulism country in the stability and security of the region and at a time when the United States is attempting to establish with the Arabs and Muslims relations of cooperation in combating international terrorism and introducing the necessary reforms to bring about the widest partnership possible between the two sides, decides the following;

1 – Rejecting the so-called Accountability of Syria Bill and considering it in contradiction with the principles of international law, the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and a forcing of the US laws on international law;

2 – Full solidarity with the Arab Republic of Syria and appreciation of her position in favour of dialogue and diplomacy as a method of understanding among nations and settlement of conflicts, and calling on the US Administration to enter upon a well-intentioned dialogue with Syria to find the most effective means of settling the issues which hamper the improvement of Syrian-American relations;

3- Requesting the United States of America to reconsider this law which is considered entirely partial to Israel so as to avoid the further deterioration of the situation and wasting opportunities to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region, which constitutes a serious infringement upon Arab interests;

4- Full solidarity with Lebanon against the attempts to harm its historical brotherly relations with Syria , and refusal to interfere in its internal affairs through the so-called accountability of Syria or any other related projects;

5- To request the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the coming session.

RESOLUTION NO. 12/31-P
ON
THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Guided by the principles enshrined in the OIC Charter calling for solidarity among Member States;

Attached to the principles enshrined in the UN Charter calling to refrain from the use, or threat of use of force in international relations and for the conflict resolution through peaceful means;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences as well as the Resolutions and Final Declarations adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States, the African Union, and the Non-Aligned Movement;

Referring to the verdict passed by the International Court of Justice on 27.2.1998 confirming its competence and acceptance to consider the case;

Expressing its appreciation for the wise decision of Colonel Muamar Al Gadhafi and for the position of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and its positive initiative aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement of the crisis and for honouring all requirements provided for in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions No. 748 (1992) and 883 (1993);

Expressing also its deep concern over the material and human losses inflicted on the Arab Libyan people and the neighbouring States as a result of the unjust sanctions imposed;

Expressing its appreciation for the Great Jamahiriya's encouragement of its two suspect citizens to appear before the Scottish court in Holland;

Expressing regret over the ruling passed by the Scottish Court of Appeal which confirmed the condemnation of the Libyan citizen Abdul Baset Al-Megrahi and in which legal experts find many legal flaws;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.10).

1. **Welcomes** UN Security Council Resolution 1506 (2003) lifting definitively the sanctions that were imposed against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and **calls** for lifting of all

remaining unilateral sanctions imposed on Libya, considering them as a means of political coercion in contradiction with UN Resolution, in particular the General Assembly resolution 57/5/2002.

2. **Supports** the right of the Great Jamahiriya to receive just reparations for the human and material damages inflicted on it as a result of the sanctions imposed against it.

3. **Regrets** the condemnation of one of the two Libyan citizens and expresses its conviction that the innocence of one means the innocence of the other since the assumptions underlying their accusation are the same and demands the release of the Libyan citizen, considered as a political hostage, Abdul Baset Al Megrahi.

4. **Calis on** international public opinion to condemn the political motives underlying the verdict against the Libyan citizen Abdul Baset Al-Megrahi, which has been found by legal experts to suffer from many flaws.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/31-P
ON
THE REVIEW AND RATIONALISATION OF OIC AGENDA ITEMS AND ITS RESOLUTIONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling Resolution 46/10-P (IS) issued by the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference and Res. No. 2/30-ORG on Review and Rationalization of OIC Agenda Items and its Resolutions adopted in the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 28 to 30 May 2003;

Noting the new and emerging challenges facing the OIC Member States, and reiterating the urgent need to enhance the effectiveness of the Organization in meeting the growing challenges;

Recognizing the importance of, and need to support, the process of reform of the Organization to reach higher levels of efficiency and competence and enhance its effectiveness, energize and implement its decisions, and to constantly adapt the Organization to evolving international circumstances;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.11) and having considered the report of the Governmental Expert Group on this matter (Doc. No. OIC/2-IGGE/2004/AG/RES);

1. **Approves** all the recommendations included in the above-mentioned report and invites the Member States to start implementing them.

2. **Requests** the Governmental Expert Group to convene once every two years to review the resolutions and make appropriate recommendations for their rationalization.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/31-P
ON
THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN SIERRA LEONE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004).*

Having noted with great satisfaction the conclusion of the Lome Peace Accord of 7th July, 1999 brokered by ECOWAS under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Togo, the then Chairman of ECOWAS;

Noting the efforts of ECOWAS, the United Nations, the AU and other international organizations to bring peace to Sierra Leone and the sub-region especially the cease-fire agreement signed in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria on 30 April 2001, between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) culminating in the cessation of hostilities and ushering in the current peaceful atmosphere in Sierra Leone;

Aware also that a large number of Sierra Leone nationals including professionals, were forced to flee to neighbouring countries or elsewhere as refugees have started to return to Sierra Leone as a result of the peaceful atmosphere and the programme of rehabilitation, reconstruction and re-settlement which is being gradually implemented;

Taking note of the Secretary-General's report on the situation in Sierra Leone (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.12).

1. **Expresses** its deep appreciation to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the United Nations, the AU and other International Organizations, etc. and to the

Government of the Republic of Togo for the conclusion of the peace agreement and recalls the positive action undertaken by the countries which have contributed forces to the ECOMOG Peacekeeping force namely, Nigeria, Guinea, Ghana, Mali, Niger and Gambia. **Also expresses** its deep appreciation for the decisions by the governments of Bangladesh and Pakistan to contribute a large contingent of troops to UNAMSIL in Sierra Leone.

2. **Accepts** the results of the recently held Presidential and Parliamentary elections which the incumbent President Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and his Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) won so brilliantly.

3. **Appeals** to all Member States and other humanitarian/financial organizations to extend urgent material assistance to the Government of Sierra Leone and to enable it to undertake the economic and social rehabilitation of the country and to facilitate the return to their home of refugees living in neighbouring countries.

4. **Welcomes** the establishment of the Trust Fund for Sierra Leone and endorses in this regard the recommendations of the Contact Group on Sierra Leone.

5. **Commends** the generous financial contributions made by the Member States of Qatar, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Sudan.

6. **Urges** the OIC Member States to pledge their generous assistance to Sierra Leone for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country following the mayhem and destruction caused by the civil war bilaterally or through the OIC Fund for reconstruction rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance for Sierra Leone.

7. **Further urges** Member States to extend appropriate assistance to neighbouring States to mitigate the impact of the influx of the hundreds of thousands of Sierra Leonean refugees pending their return home.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 15/31-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),* Recalling all the previous resolutions and declarations adopted by the OIC on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Welcoming the principles, objectives and goals of the Charter of Stability in the Balkans;

Reaffirms the commitment of the OIC Member States to preserve unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty and international personality of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within its internationally recognized borders, as well as its multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious structure;

Declares their full support for the full and consistent implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement, as well as to the key intentions of the Stability Pact for South East Europe and expresses their political readiness to continue participating in the meetings of the Peace Implementation Council and the Steering Board of the Peace Agreement, including the Reconstruction Program for Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Deeply concerned with the inconsistencies in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement, particularly relating to the building-up of the State institutions, State regulatory framework, return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes of origin and capturing of indicted war criminals and to bring them to trial;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.13).

1. **Urges** international community to speed up and profound the open processes of reconstruction, democratization and reintegration of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. **Expresses** their readiness to continue participating in the whole peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including its development on the basis of the open process of liberalization and regularization of the economic system of the State;

3. **Reiterates** their spirit of solidarity and expresses readiness to continue assisting people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in rebuilding their multiethnic, multi-religious and multicultural society, including the cultural and religious heritage of the Bosnian Muslims.

4. **Emphasizes** the crucial role of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia relating to Bosnia and Herzegovina in promoting peace, justice and reconciliation and **urges** the speed and effective capturing of the indicted war criminal, as well as full implementation of the UNGA Resolution relating to Srebrenica Massacre and call upon the UN Secretariat and other international organizations to determine responsibility for the occurrence of the massacre and taking the necessary measures in this regard;

5. **Expresses** its support to the High Representative in monitoring and implementing particularly the three key areas, namely economic reform, acceleration of the return of refugees and displaced persons and the consolidation of institutions especially at the state level.

6. **Stresses** that a comprehensive and coordinated return of refugees and displaced persons throughout the region, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina, should be further supported politically and materially, having in mind its crucial role for achieving lasting peace for all;

7. **Emphasizes** also the importance of the economic recovery and the key role of economic revitalization in consolidating peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina and **invites** the economic operators and banks of the OIC countries to investigate the possibilities to take active role in these processes;

8. **Highly appreciates** the honouring, by some donor states to the Trust Fund for the urgent Return of Refugees to the Bosnia-Herzegovina, of their financial obligations, transferring their donations to the Fund's account at the IDB. **It urges** the Member States to extend further donations in favour of the Fund.

9. **Acknowledges** the significance of the continued contributions of the OIC members of the Peace Implementation council to the budget of the Office of the High Representative.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 16/31-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of OIC, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights, the Convention of the Rights of the child, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees and the Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as, other instruments of international humanitarian law;

Upholding the role of U.N. in the peaceful settlement of disputes and the maintenance of international peace and security;

Mindful of all relevant U.N. Security Council Resolutions in this issue and in particular Resolution No. 1244 (1999);

Referring to the Resolution on the situation in Kosovo adopted at Twenty-eighth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on 25-27 June 2001, in Bamako, Republic of Mali;

Recalling the Resolution of the 55th Session of U.N. Human Rights Commission on the situation of Human Rights in Kosovo;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.13);

1. **Calls for** full implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1244/99 as well as relevant U.N. Resolutions in fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter.

2. **Calls upon** the United Nations to uphold the right of the Kosovars to self-determination and to ensure the preservation of their cultural heritage and Islamic identity.

3. **Reaffirms** that the safe, immediate and unconditional return of all Kosovar refugees to their homes is prerequisite to the settlement.

4. **Calls upon** the international community to bring to international justice the perpetrators of ethnic cleansing and all other crimes against humanity in Kosovo.

5. **Welcomes** the efforts made by the United Nations for these provisional administration and the peace keeping forces and requests all parties in Kosovo as well as the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to cooperate fully with the United Nations Mission and Kosovar forces to discharge the task entrusted to them.

6. **Expresses** its appreciation for the continuing work of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) to enable the preparation of a clear road map concerning the future of Kosovo which would help to attract foreign investment and foreign economic participation in Kosovo.

7. **Urges** the international presence in Kosovo to continue taking all necessary security and confidence building measures, including the promotion of inter ethnic tolerance and cooperation, to reinforce the protection and security of the entire Kosovar people.

8. **Regrets** the outbreak of violence in some provinces and the current situation of division between different ethnic communities.

9. **Calls upon** the international community to make efforts to provide the necessary ground for all the national minorities in Kosovo to maintain their acquired rights and participate in the administrative structures on an equal basis and welcome the result of recent election.

10. **Appreciates** the humanitarian assistance already extended by OIC member states to Kosovo.

11. **Urges** the international community as well as the OIC Member States to continue contributing financially to the reconstruction of Kosovo.

12. **Inviting** Secretary-General to hold a Scientific Seminar for deep study on the future of Balkan Region and the relationship with Muslim world in this region and the role of Muslim in stabilizing and development of this region.

13. **Expresses** its solidarity with the Kosovars and Bosniac national minority in Sanjak region.

14. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the OIC Contact Group and the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/31-P
ON
THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE UNION OF COMOROS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Having taken cognizance of the evolution of the political and economic situation of the Union of Comoros, constituting one of the essential causes of the secessionist crisis in the Island of Anjuan;

Having considered the political and economic situation in the Union of Comoros, the current positive developments, particularly the peace process and national reconciliation, the adoption of a new constitution for the country and the organization of Presidential elections, pursuant to the determination of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to preserve the unity of the Islamic Ummah and the sovereignty of all Member States over their territories;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.14);

1. **Reiterates** its full commitment to national unity, the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Union of Comoros.

2. **Expresses** satisfaction on achieving national reconciliation, the establishment of State institutions and the results of the Presidential and legislative elections; **commends** the efforts exerted by the Comorian Government, in collaboration with the OIC, AU, League of Arab States and the International Organization of Francophonie, aimed at realizing a peaceful settlement of the political crisis in the Comoros.

3. **Calls on** Member States, Ministerial Councils, and Islamic and specialized organizations, and concerned bodies to expeditiously extend humanitarian and economic assistance to the Union of the Comoros to help it overcome its acute economic crisis and erase the effects of secession and enable it to rehabilitate the institutions of the States, reopen schools and hospitals, and achieve a balanced development among its different islands.

4. **Calls on** funds and financial institutions in the Member States to consider the possibility of cancelling or rescheduling the debts of the Union of Comoros as a contribution in the reconstruction of Comorian economy.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter in coordination with the government of the Union of Comoros and speedily dispatch a delegation from the General Secretariat to take stock of the situation in the Union of Comoros to enable the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/31-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN CHECHNYA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of OIC;

Recalling the Communique' issued by the Office of the Chairman of the OIC and the findings reached by the OIC Ministerial Delegation to Moscow and Chechnya on 6 December 1999;

Recalling further the declaration of the Secretary-General of the OIC concerning the visit of the Senior Officials to Moscow 16-19 January 2000;

Taking note of the Declaration issued by the delegation of Arab and Muslim countries during their meeting in Moscow in the spring of 2000 to attend the multilateral discussion on disarmament in the Middle-East;

Expressing its grave concern over the tragic crisis in Chechnya and the loss of lives and properties;

Reaffirming its respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Russian Federation and non-interference in its internal affairs;

Noting the heavy loss of lives particularly among the civilian population and the heavy damage and destruction of property as a result of the Russian offensive;

Expressing its concern over the acute plight of Chechen refugees now living in camps in Ingushetia and other places in the northern Caucasus, most of whom have little or no medical care or other assistance;

Recognizing that only a negotiated political solution can bring an enduring peace in the Chechnya;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Chechnya (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.15);

1. **Calls on** the government of the Russian Federation to pursue negotiations with representatives of the Chechen people as soon as possible with a view to achieving a peaceful settlement of the situation in Chechnya taking into account appropriate international instruments on Human Rights and the agreement signed in 1996. The political solution should cover a general cease fire, and appropriate measures to prevent the resumption of hostilities as well as the return of refugees and displaced persons.

2. **Expresses** its readiness to pursue contacts with the Government of the Russian Federation with a view to facilitating a peaceful solution.

3. **Urges** Member States, other members of the international community and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to take all necessary measures to address the humanitarian needs of the Chechen people in particular the refugees and the displaced persons.

4. **Urges** Member States to provide economic and technical assistance for the reconstruction of Chechnya once a peaceful settlement has been reached.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 19/31-P
ON
THE IMPOSITION OF UNILATERAL ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly those call for promotion of Islamic Solidarity among Member States, taking necessary measures to support international peace and security founded on justice, and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of each Member State, as well as the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, regarding the development of friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and achieving international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting respect for human rights;

Reaffirming the principles and provisions of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 and that of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, as well as provisions of the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of their Independence and Sovereignty, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2131(XX) of 21 December 1974, all of which declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights;

Recalling the relevant OIC resolutions, the most recent of which were resolutions No. 26/29-P, 27/29-P and 34/29-P, adopted by 29th ICFM, as well as relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, particularly, resolutions 57/5 (16 October 2002), and 57/222 (18 December 2002), all of which, rejected unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, as they are contrary to the recognized principles of international law and by expressing deep concern at the negative impacts of unilaterally imposed extraterritorial coercive economic measures on trade and financial and economic cooperation, the freedom of trade, the free flow of capital at the regional and international levels, the full enjoyment of human rights, called upon those States that have initiated such measures, to revoke them immediately;

Recalling Final Document of the XIII Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Kuala Lumpur, 24-25 February 2003, in which, the Heads of State or Government of NAM members, condemned the continued unilateral application, by certain powers, of coercive economic measures, including the enactment of extra-territorial laws, against a number of developing countries and called on all States to refrain from adopting or implementing extra-territorial or unilateral measures of coercion, noting that measures such as Helms-Burton Law and D'Amato-Kennedy Acts, constitute flagrant violations of international law, the established principles of the multilateral trading system and the Charter of the United Nations and stated that the international community have to take effective action in order to arrest this trend;

Recalling also declarations and other documents issued by the Group of 77, particularly Declaration of the South Summit (Havana, 10-14 April 2000) and Declarations of the Ministers of that Group on the Third and Forth Ministerial Conferences of World Trade Organization (WTO), in which they Firmly rejected the imposition of laws and regulations with extraterritorial impact and all forms of coercive economic measures, including unilateral sanctions against developing countries and reiterated the urgent need to eliminate them immediately;

Gravely concerned over the application of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures against some OIC members, including the imposition of such sanctions by the USA in mid-1996, against the Islamic republic of Iran and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the ILSA Act, known as D'Amato-Kennedy Act, which was extend for 5 more years on 22 June 2002, with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of those States, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under their jurisdiction;

Gravely disturbed over the application of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures against Republic of the Sudan, pursuant to the executive order signed by US President in early November 1997, with all its negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of Sudan;

Affirming that imposition of extra-territorial laws and unilateral economic sanctions against OIC member States are unjust, oppressive and constitute a blatant violation of the provisions of International Law and run counter to those of the Charters of the U.N. and the OIC and also contradict the basic principles enshrined in the agreement of the WTO;

Having considered the recommendations of the First and Second Meetings of the Experts Group on studying the phenomenon of unilateral economic sanctions (Documents ISAS/1/99/REP.1and UES/2-2002/REP.1FINAL);

Taking into consideration the report submitted by the Secretary-General in this regard (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG.REP.16)

1 - Affirms that unilateral measures and attempts to impose extra-territorial laws against OIC member States contradict the principles of international law and the UN Charter which warn against intervention in the internal affairs of States and stipulate the settlement of disputes by dialogue and peaceful means, and also contradict the basic principles enshrined in WTO agreement;

*2 - **Expresses its deep concerns*** over the imposition of unilateral economic sanctions and enacting domestic laws and legislations aimed at applying them extra-territorially under the so-called humanitarian intervention and other pretexts and excuses, and at the negative impacts of unilaterally imposed extraterritorial coercive economic measures on trade and financial and economic cooperation, because of posing serious obstacles to the freedom of trade and the free flow of capital at the regional and international levels;

*3 - **Strongly rejects*** all types of unilateral measures and consider them as null and void and emphasizes on its strong solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Republic of the Sudan against such acts;

*4 - **Urges*** the States which are imposing unilateral economic and extraterritorial sanctions, to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international law and to, immediately repeal all existing measures and refrain from such practices which are inconsistent with the provisions of international law and objectives and principles of the UN Charter and WTO agreements;

*5 - **Calls upon*** all Member States neither to recognize these measures nor apply them, as well as to consider adopting administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

*6 - **Entrusts*** the OIC General Secretariat with gathering information and statistics on the harmful consequences of unilateral economic sanctions from available sources in this respect and to coordinate with the Member States to convene a symposium on the unilateral economic sanctions and its impact on the Member States;

*7 - **invites*** the Experts Group on following up unilateral economic sanctions, to meet regularly and convene its Third Meeting in mid 2003 in order to elaborate the means to countering them and, aiming at facilitating the implementation of Operative Paragraph 5 above, formulating a Model Law for its submission to the next ICFM and ***calls upon*** the Member States to effectively and at the highest possible level of experts, participate in the meetings of this group;

*8 - **Entrusts*** the OIC New York Office to bring the present resolution and that of the UN General Assembly to the attention of all Member States through their Permanent Representatives in New York and to seek their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations, as well as their measures in implementing those resolutions, and to submit a report thereon to the Secretaries General of the UN and the OIC and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for inclusion in their relevant reports;

*9 - **Invites*** the OIC Groups in New York and Geneva, in accordance with resolution No. 55/29 of the 29th ICFM, to periodically, follow up and review the issue of unilateral economic sanctions and report thereon to the OIC General Secretariat;

*10 - **Decides*** to include this item in the agenda of all its next sessions until the full annulment of those sanctions imposed against Islamic States.

*11 - **Requests*** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/31-P
ON
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND THE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the objectives and principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, as well as the existing cooperation agreements between the OIC and international and regional organizations;

Emphasizing the need for and the importance of establishing, maintaining and strengthening close relations and fruitful cooperation between the OIC and its Subsidiary Organs, its Affiliated and Specialized Institutions and the International Organizations, particularly those whose majority members belong to the Organization of Islamic Conference in a joint effort towards finding solution to international problems of common interest;

Taking into consideration the friendly relations and cooperation existing between the OIC system and international and regional organizations;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General and ***commending*** his efforts and approach in promoting further cooperation between the OIC and international and regional organizations; (Document No.ICFM/31-2004/POL/ SG.REP.17)

1- ***Requests*** the Secretary-General to continue his efforts within the implementation of relevant resolutions of the OIC Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences and to further intensify his contacts with the United Nations, the African Union and International Francophone Organizations and other Regional Organizations in order to establish, maintain and strengthen friendly cooperation with these Organizations.

2- ***Urges*** the specialized, affiliated and subsidiary organs of the OIC System, to continue to broaden the scope of their cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations;

3- ***Invites*** the General Secretariat, taking into account relevant resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and in consultation with member states, to prepare a study for exploiting appropriate fields of common interest and to design a prioritized and policy-oriented cooperation plan for ensuring continuous, effective and strengthened cooperation between the OIC and international and regional organizations, and submit it to the forthcoming ICFM for appropriate decision thereon;

4- **Encourages** the Secretary-General to further strengthen the cooperation between the OIC and the International Organization for Migration, in accordance with the cooperation agreement concluded by the two organizations in Jeddah in January 2004.

5- ***Requests*** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a comprehensive progress report on the cooperation between the OIC and international and regional organizations to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 21/31-P
ON
U.N. REFORM INCLUDING THE EXPANSION AND REFORM OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling OIC resolution No. 46/26-P which call to maintain security and integrity of Islamic States;

Affirming the importance of the ongoing processes of UN reform including the reform of the Security Council;

Recognizing that any reform of the United Nations, including Security Council reform, should be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the UN Charter;

Reiterating the need for the reform and democratisation of the Security Council, in order to reflect the current political realities in the international relations, and to address the need for the enhanced representation of the developing countries, as well as the need to significantly improve the working methods and procedures of the Security Council for the enhanced transparency in its decision making process;

Also reiterating that any reform and expansion of the membership of the Security Council should be in accordance with the principle of sovereign equality of States and equitable geographical distribution;

Recalling Resolution No. 40/8-P(IS) adopted at the OIC Eighth Summit in Tehran in December 1997 and resolution No. 26/9-P (IS) adopted at the OIC 9th Summit in Doha in November 2000 on the UN Reforms, including the expansion and reform of the Security Council and the earlier Declarations adopted by the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers in New York on 2 October 1997;

Recalling also paras 64 to 75 of the Final Document of XII NAM Summit in Durban adopted on 3 September 1998, the paragraphs related to the Security Council reform in the Declaration adopted at the 32nd Session of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Harare in June 1997 as well as in the Working Paper of the Arab Group adopted by the Arab Foreign Ministers in New York on 29 September 1997;

Taking note the Report of Secretary-General No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.18);

1. **Calls for** a comprehensive reform of the Security Council in all its aspects in order to make it more democratic, representative, transparent and accountable.

2. **Affirms** that the Member States have a direct and vital interest in determining the outcome of UN reform and expansion of the membership of the Security Council.

3. **Welcomes** UN General Assembly Resolution No. 53/30 of 23 November 1998 by which it decided that any resolution or decision on the question of equitable representation and on the increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters, would require the affirmative vote power of at least two thirds of the Members of the General Assembly.

4. **Reaffirms** that both reform and expansion of the membership of the Security Council, including the question of the veto, should be considered as integral parts of a common package, taking into account the principle of sovereign equality of States and equitable geographical distribution.

5. **Further reaffirms** that efforts at restructuring the Security Council shall not be subject to any imposed time frame, and that all efforts should be made to reach general agreement on this issue.

6. **Stresses** that the Open-ended Working Group of the UN General Assembly continues to be the appropriate forum in which to pursue the efforts aimed at reforming the Security Council on the basis of the General Assembly resolution 48/26;

7. **Reaffirms** the resolve of the member States to continue contributing actively and constructively to the consideration of the reform and expansion of the membership of the Security Council on the basis of the aforementioned declarations and communiques.

8. **Requests** the OIC open-ended Contact Group on UN Reform and Expansion of the Security Council at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to regularly exchange views and coordinate efforts with a view to safeguarding the interests of Member States and enabling them to make their indispensable contribution to the process of UN reform and expansion of the Security Council membership.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to implement this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 22/31-P
ON
U.S. ATTACK ON AL-SHIFA PHARMACEUTICAL PLANT IN KHARTOUM

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Emphasizing the principles and objectives of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference which call for solidarity among Islamic States;

Recalling the principles of the UN Charter which stipulate the commitment on the part of Member States to desist from the use, or threat of use of force, and to settle their disputes through peaceful means;

Also recalling its previous resolutions to assist the Republic of Sudan to counter dangers that threaten its security and national unity;

Welcoming resolutions adopted by the League of Arab States, the Eighth Summit of Non-Aligned States as well as the continuous efforts of the Arab and Islamic Group at the United Nations, which roundly condemned the missile attack launched by the USA against Al-Shifa Pharmaceutical Plant in Khartoum on 20 August 1998, and supported Sudan's request to set up an international committee of enquiry;

Reiterating its total rejection of the use of force and all forms of terrorism, including state terrorism;

1. **Expresses** its full support and assistance to the request of the Republic of Sudan to constitute an international committee of inquiry, under the supervision of the UN Security Council in order to investigate into the allegations of the USA that Al-Shifa Pharmaceutical Plant produced toxic chemical gasses.

2. **Requests** again the USA Government to positively respond to the request of the Sudan to set up a committee of inquiry.

3. **Reiterates** its total solidarity with the Sudan to counter hostile designs which target its security and national unity.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to conduct necessary contacts with the Security Council and the USA Government, or any other organization, in order to implement this resolution, and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/31-P
ON
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION AND THE DEBT BURDEN IN AFRICA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the previous resolutions of the OIC on the subject, in particular resolution 15/5-P (IS) of the Fifth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and the important provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Emphasizing that the African development problem is of deep concern to the entire Islamic Ummah;

Noting with appreciation the positive response of the international community, particularly the Islamic countries, to the economic problems faced by the continent of Africa;

Deeply concerned that despite the reform and restructuring being undertaken by the African countries, their economic development continues to be impeded, inter-alia, by an unfavourable economic environment, inadequate flow of resources and a heavy debt burden;

Noting that both the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (1986-1990) adopted by the Special Session of the General Assembly in May 1986 as well as the United Nations New Agenda for the 90's did not yield the required results;

Taking into consideration the important results of the Uruguay Round which has led to the creation of the WTO and its possible consequences on the critical economic situation in Africa;

Having examined the report presented by the UN Secretary-General on the worrying economic situation in Africa and the positive reactions by international economic bodies;

Having taken note with appreciation of the adoption of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) by the Conference of the Heads of State of the Africa as a pattern for fighting poverty and embarking their countries on the path of sustainable economic and social development;

1. **Comments** the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the 1991 Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa.

2. **Expresses appreciation** to the Member States which have provided assistance to Africa through bilateral or multilateral channels.

3. **Commends** the adoption of the New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD) as representing the collective determination and commitment of African Governments and peoples to take control over their future development and assume their pressing duty to fight poverty by placing their countries on path of sustainable economic and social development. **It shares** the approach to development as embedded in the NEPAD and which is based on a thorough evaluation of past experience, particularly the realization that Africa's economic growth and sustainable development cannot be achieved through an approach solely or predominantly based on the aid-and-credit pattern which has failed. Therefore, **it supports** the new comprehensive development approach which calls for a comprehensive new partnership with the international and African private sector, as well as with bilateral and multilateral financial and technical partners, together with the African civil society and people as a whole.

4. In this regard, **it welcomes** the endorsement of this initiative by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Secretary-General, and the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Durban (South Africa) from 27 to 29 April 2002, as well as the support for the initiative by the Group of Eight Industrialized Countries and the European Union as important steps in achieving one of the most important goals of the NEPAD, namely the establishment of a new relationship based on a new partnership and mutual responsibility and accountability between Africa and the international community. In this regard, **it expresses** the OIC sincere endorsement of the NEPAD and its readiness to support its implementation, including financial support through, inter-alia, the Islamic Development Bank.

5. **Expresses appreciation** also to the joint initiatives of the G-7 and the Briton Woods institutions taken in favour of the heavily-indebted countries as well as the resolution adopted by some members of the international community, in particular some Islamic States, during the European-African Summit, held recently in Cairo, providing for the alleviation or cancelling debts of African States.

6. **Commends** the decision taken by the Kingdom of Morocco to cancel its debts on a number of African States and **invites** OIC Member States to take similar initiatives.

7. **Urges** the international community, particularly the developed countries and the concerned international financial agencies including the WTO, IDB to continue making a substantial contribution to the objectives of African Economic Recovery and Development through an increase in concessional financial flows to the public and private sector in Africa.

8. **Further invites** all parties in the development of Africa including the WTO to take measures aimed at raising Africa's export earnings and the reduction in the negative impact of fluctuation in the earnings of African economies.

9. **Notes with concern** the obligations that debt and debt servicing continue to impose on developing countries especially those in Africa and **urges** the international community in general and the Islamic Ummah in particular to adopt appropriate measures to achieve global and durable solution on the debt problem through total debt cancellation.

10. **Calls on** Member States to increase their assistance to African countries to implement their structural economic programme as well as poverty alleviation.

11. **Welcomes** the contribution of Member States to the World Food Summit in Rome held from 11 to 17 November 1996 and calls for the implementation of its resolutions and the Programme of Action.

12. **Invites** the international community to strengthen its support for African States' efforts to diversify their economies and broaden their production base especially in the area of export products.

13. **Invites** the international community and the Islamic world to support the efforts of African countries to achieve self-sufficiency in food production.

14. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 24/31-P
ON
ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE SAHEL

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Noting with deep concern that drought and famine have been prevailing for the past few years in the Sahel thereby hampering the development efforts exerted by the brave peoples in the Sahel;

Noting with satisfaction that the problems of drought and famine have continued to receive the close attention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Also noting with satisfaction that the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, in December 1991, urged Member States and OIC institutions to strengthen their cooperation with CILSS and welcomed the progress made by CILSS in preparing a coherent plan aimed at protecting the Sahelian peoples and their economic potentialities against the effects of drought and desertification which are hampering the development process;

Having taken cognizance of all the relevant resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences, in particular resolution No. 29/8-P (IS) adopted by the 8th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on solidarity with the peoples of the Sahel;

Having also taken cognizance of the report of the Committee of Experts in charge of examining the OIC/IDB/CILSS cooperation programme for the Sahel;

Being aware that the lives of millions of persons and of cattle as well as the environment are daily jeopardized;

Reiterating the need for the urgent implementation of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel as soon as possible;

Taking note of the Report of the related Committee, held on 6 and 7 April, 2002 at the Islamic Development Bank Headquarters in Jeddah;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General on Islamic solidarity with the peoples of the Sahel (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.20);

1. **Expresses its appreciation** of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the completion of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel.

2. **Takes note with appreciation** of the Report of the Seventeenth Session of the Committee for Islamic Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on June 30, 1999 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Abdul Aziz Dahul, Minister of the State of Kuwait, representing Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, First Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Chairman of the Committee.

3. **Expresses satisfaction** with the Committee for Islamic Solidarity with the People of Sahel for its propitious initiatives in favour of African countries suffering from drought and desertification.

4. **Reaffirms** the necessity to devote greater attention to the implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations.

5. **Commends** the achievements of the programme of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for providing the countries of the African Sahel with water during its first and second stages for a total amount of 130 million US dollars, which has benefited more than ten (10) countries **and commends also** the fact that the Kingdom has recently started implementing the programme's third stage amounting to 50 million US Dollars. This third stage will be realized in a similar way as the previous ones.

6. **Expresses its gratitude** to the State of Kuwait which has already announced a contribution of 30 Millions Dollars for the Special Programme for the Sahel. **Express also its gratitude** to the government and people of Indonesia for their readiness to generously contribute towards the implementation of this special programme for the people of the Sahel. **Expresses it appreciation** to the IDB for having announced a contribution of twenty (20) million US dollars in favour of the Special OIC/IDB/CILSS Programme.

7. **Appeals urgently** to Member States who can afford to, to contribute generously and substantially to the funding of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme in favour of the Sahel Populations an integral part of the Islamic Ummah, so as to crystallize the OIC Member States' solidarity with these populations, in order to alleviate their sufferings and ensure sustained development in the Sahel region.

8. **Approves** the setting up of a high level follow-up committee responsible for speeding up the implementation of the programme.

9. **Requests** Member States and institutions concerned to ensure the implementation of the recommendations of the high-level follow-up committee which met at the IDB Headquarters in Jeddah on March 15, 1999.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 25/31-P
ON
SUPPORTING THE WORLD SOLIDARITY AND POVERTY COMBATING FUND

The Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),*

Recalling Resolution 33/9-P (IS) adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution 21/10-P(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Putrajaya, Malaysia from 16 to 17 October 2003);

Referring to Resolution 265/57, adopted by the 57th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Establishment of a World Solidarity and Poverty Combating Fund:

1. **Calls again upon** OIC Member States to lend support to the World Solidarity and Poverty Combating Fund, by contributing in the provision of the necessary financial resources in order to enable the Fund to commence its action and attain its noble goals.

2. **Invites** OIC Member States again to urge the civil society, the private sector and individuals to contribute actively in financing the Fund as a mechanism for combating poverty and destitution in the neediest countries.

3. **Calls** on the governments of OIC Member States to promote in the different international and regional fora the lofty goals for which the world solidarity fund to combat poverty and encourage all governmental and non-governmental parties to contribute thereto.

RESOLUTION NO. 26/31-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR NIGER'S EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE ITS NATIONAL UNITY AND ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN PASTORAL AREA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the goals and principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) aiming, in particular, at fostering Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening cooperation between them in the economic, social, cultural and scientific areas as well as in all vital fields;

Taking into consideration all the peace agreements signed by the Government of Niger and the Organization of Armed Resistance in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) in 1994; in Niamey (1996) and in Algiers (1997);

Conscious that the socio-economic integration of refugees and disbanded servicemen on a lasting basis is a prerequisite for the for peace and stability to prevail in the northern pastoral area and the sub-Saharan region;

Convinced of the necessity of providing Niger with the necessary assistance for its economic and social development, the sole guarantee of stability in the Northern Pastoral Area,

1. **Welcomes** the efforts of Algeria, Burkina Faso and France for their mediation and important contribution to achieving the peace accord.

2. **Commends** the Government of Niger for organizing the ceremony of the "Torch of Peace" and for its efforts to rehabilitate areas affected by the former rebellion movement.

3. **Requests** Member States, the General Secretariat, and Islamic institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to consolidate its national unity and achieve its development objectives in the context of implementing the above-mentioned agreements.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the IDB to devise a special programme in favour of Niger with a view to help the country cope with the aftermath of the rebellion in the North area of the country.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 27/31-P
ON
THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN REGIONS OF MALI

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Proceeding from resolution No. 19/6-P (IS) entitled "Islamic solidarity with Mali for the restoration of peace and the development of its Northern Regions" adopted by the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 9-11 December, 1991;

Recalling, all relevant Islamic resolutions, in particular No. 35/9-P (IS) adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit, requesting Member States and financial institutions of the Organization to contribute more in the financing the Program of Projects aimed at strengthening peace in the Northern regions of Mali;

Convinced as well that the consolidation of peace, the return of the people driven out of their homes, their reinsertion and their socio-economic development cannot be achieved without the support and assistance of friendly countries and institutions;

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

1. **Requests** Member States and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency program and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their reinsertion and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali.

2. **Recommends** to Member States and Islamic financial institutions to most actively support the implementation of the medium and long-term development strategy and of the emergency program in the areas of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctoo.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the IDB to devise a special programme in favour of Mali with a view to help the country cope with the aftermath of the rebellion in the North area of the country.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 28/31-P
ON
SOLIDARITY WITH REPUBLIC OF GUINEA TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF INSTABILITY IN WEST AFRICA

The Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 20 to 21 Shaban, 1424H (16-17 October 2003),*

Considering the role played by the Republic of Guinea within the framework ECOWAS for the achievement of peace and the restoration of stability in the States of the sub-region torn by civil war, particularly Liberia;

Deeply concerned about the massive flow of refugees, which has been going on for over a decade, into the territories of the Republic of Guinea, the continuation of the crisis in Liberia, the recent conflicts in Cote d'Ivoire, and the slow pace of the return of refugees to their countries of origin;

Appraising the adverse effects of this regrettable situation on the efforts exerted by the Republic of Guinea in the fields of development, environment and struggle against poverty;

Inspired by the Declaration, adopted by the OAU Heads of State and Government of 30 June 1993 on establishing a mechanism to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts in Africa;

Recalling the resolutions and recommendation of the OAU (African Union) Conference on Refugees and Displaced Persons in Africa, held in December 1998 (in Khartoum);

1. **Pays tribute to** the Republic of Guinea for the efforts exerted in the context of the reception, assistance and voluntary return of these refugees and displaced persons to their countries of origin.

2. **Exhorts** Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Republic of Guinea to help it overcome the problems entailed by the prolonged stay of refugees on its territory.

3. **Highly appreciates** the latest joint OIC/IDB mission for the untiring efforts exerted towards supporting the Republic of Guinea in these times of struggle against the drift of refugees and displaced persons.

4. **Reiterates** its call on the said institutions to translate into fact this humanitarian undertaking.

5. **Invites** the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to allocate additional resource with a view to alleviating the suffering of these refugees.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue his efforts within the framework of contacts with other international organizations, in favour of the Republic of Guinea, with a view to sensitizing the international community to the situation entailed by the presence of these refugees and to the threat that such a situation may pose for peace and stability in the sub-region.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General, with the assistance of Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the other concerned institutions to organize a symposium on ways and means to achieve security and stability in the countries of the Mono River; and REQUESTS all the countries of the region and the concerned organizations to participate at the highest level in the proceedings of this symposium.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution, and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 29/31-P
ON
THE RIGHT OF THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLES LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO RECEIVE REPARATIONS FOR LOSSES RESULTING FROM U.S. AGGRESSION IN 1986

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Proceeding from its belief in the common destiny and solidarity of Islamic States as well as the principles and objectives of the OIC;

Taking into consideration the obligation of all states to refrain from the threat or use of force;

Recalling all resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences which condemned the said aggression and confirmed the right of Libya to receive just reparations for the material and human losses resulting from that aggression;

Recalling also UN General Assembly Resolution No. 38/41 condemning the aggression and affirming the right of the Jamahiriya to demand appropriate redress for the material and human losses incurred;

Recalling as well the General Assembly Document No. A/42/412DD1 dated 27 July, 1987, submitted by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning the said damage;

Recalling the partial lifting of sanctions imposed by the United States of America.

Referring to the relevant declarations, communiqués and resolutions adopted by Arab, African and Non-Aligned Movement Summit Conferences;

1. **Reaffirms** the previous resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the OIC and all international organizations, condemning the military aggression perpetrated by the United States of America against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in April 1986.

2. **Expresses** solidarity with the Jamahiriya and supports its right to appropriate compensation and damage for the losses incurred as a result of the said aggression (in accordance with the provisions of UN General Assembly Resolution No. 38/41 of November 20, 1986).

3. **Calls upon** the United States of America to positively respond to UN General Assembly Resolution No. 38/41 concerning the right of Libya to reparations, to desist from provocations and threats, and to resort to peaceful means to resolve its differences with the Jamahiriya.

4. **Condemns** the United States of America's economic boycott measures against Libya and calls for the immediate lifting of the remaining sanctions as they violate international laws and norms.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 30/31-P
ON
THE QUESTION OF REPARATIONS AND COMPENSATION FOR COLONIZATION AND THE AFTER-EFFECTS OF WAR

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and those adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers (ICFMSs) on the issue of redress for the damages resulting from the effects of colonialism and wars, particularly land mines and the after-effects of war;

Also recalling the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other relevant UN organs on the sequels of war, including mines;

Further recalling the historical precedents on reparations for the damages caused by occupation and war and their sequels, particularly those of the two world wars;

Convinced that the responsibility for removing the after-effects of wars should fall upon the countries that had caused them;

1. **Condemns** anew colonialism in all its forms as an act of aggression violating all international covenants and the principles of International Law.

2. **Reaffirms** the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to take all necessary measures to obtain quick and fair compensation for the human, moral and material losses they sustained as a result of colonialism or foreign invasion.

3. **Affirms** the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to reparations for all the human and material losses it incurred as a result of the period of invasion, colonization of and settlement in the Libyan territories.

4. **Requests** the Member States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with a view to urging the States involved in the Second World War to expeditiously extend technical and financial assistance as well as the necessary information and requisite maps for the immediate removal of mines left behind by their forces in some areas of Member States, which are still causing extensive damage and impeding the developmental efforts in those areas.

5. **Affirms** the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to recover their cultural property which was looted during the period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents, and invites Member States to coordinate among themselves in the international fora so as to achieve this aim and in collaboration with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO).

6. **Commends** the approval of the Great Libyan People's Arab Socialist Jamahiriya to host a symposium on the sequels of colonialism and **requests** the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in completing the practical arrangements, preparing the documents, extending invitations to the participants and fixing the date of the said Symposium. It also **demands of** all participating Member States to ensure high-level representation in the seminar's activities to guarantee is success and help achieve the expected results.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 31/31-P
ON
THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND STEPS TAKEN FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SECURITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which call for the consolidation of international peace and security on the basis of justice, and reaffirming its commitment to the purposes of the United Nations Charter in safeguarding international peace and security;

Noting that the current international situation requires that the principles of disarmament as contained in the United Nations Charter become a fundamental element in any collective effort designed to bring about a truly secure world and protect mankind from the threat of weapons of mass-destruction, particularly nuclear weapons;

Noting with concern the lack of progress in the general and complete disarmament;

Affirming that in efforts towards the objective of general and complete disarmament, global and regional approaches complement each other;

Concerned about the continuous erosion of multilateralism in disarmament;

Taking note of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Kuala Lumpur on 24-25 February 2003;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General in this respect (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22);

1. **Calls** for the early and total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free from such weapons and for the intensification of efforts towards that end aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. **Urges** the Conference on Disarmament which is the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating body to commence negotiations as early as possible according to the plan of action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session on the full range of disarmament issues especially nuclear disarmament.

3. **Calls upon** the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its efforts toward reaching consensus on its work program, particularly the establishment of subsidiary bodies for negotiations on Nuclear Disarmament, Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, Banning Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation aspects and effective international arrangements to ensure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

4. **Requests** the Member States to intensify their efforts at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva for the formation of an Ad-Hoc Committee on nuclear disarmament to interalia draw up a systematic and irreversible time-table for the phasing out of nuclear weapons with the objective of their total elimination.

5. **Affirms** the inalienable right of States to develop peaceful nuclear programs for their economic and social development and to have access to the necessary material, equipment, technology and information for those programs in accordance with the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

6. **Considering** that in the Middle East all States except Israel are parties to the NPT, considers it imperative that Israel should accede to the NPT and the CTBT without delay and calls upon the Nuclear Weapon States to implement their obligations, including "an unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament to which all States parties are committed under Article VI", during the 2000 Review Conference, to which they have committed themselves in the decision, declaration and resolution adopted by the Conference on the Review and Extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty held in New York in 1995, as well as the resolution adopted by that Conference on the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in the Middle East as well as paragraphs 1-9 of the Final Document adopted by 2000 NPT Review Conference on 19 May 2000, in New York.

7. **Affirms** the importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and hence strict observance of its objectives and provisions pending its entry into force.

8. **Calls** upon the UN Security Council, in the framework of the establishment of a Zone free from all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, to implement Security Council Resolution No. 487 (1981) and paragraph 14 of Security Council Resolution No. 687 (1991) and the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of this Zone through the elimination of the Israeli nuclear weapons, potential which endanger the peace and security in the Middle East.

9. **Expresses** concern over the ongoing nuclear cooperation between the United States and Israel which assists the latter to pursue its clandestine nuclear programmes and weapon activities threatening the international peace and security particularly in the Middle East.

10. **Welcomes** the initiatives of OIC Member States for the establishment of a Zone free from all weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons in the Middle East, within the framework of the United Nations, the latest of which is the initiative introduced by Syria at the UN Security Council in April and December 2003, and calls for an early establishment of such a Zone. In this context, it notes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by these States concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

11. **Welcomes** the Treaty of Pelindaba on the establishment of a nuclear weapon free zone in Africa which was signed in Cairo on 11 April, 1996 and Treaty of Bangkok on the establishment of a South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) that was signed on 15 December 1995.

12. **Calls upon** the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its efforts to come to an early agreement on concluding an international legally binding instruments providing Non-Nuclear-Weapon States with credible assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and **calls upon** the Member States to coordinate their efforts at the Conference on this issue.

13. Notes that the issue of fissile materials can be addressed effectively and in a non-discriminatory manner only through multilateral negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament, as envisaged under the relevant United Nations General Assembly Resolutions.

14. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to commence substantive work as soon as possible on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 32/31-P
ON
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONES IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, CENTRAL ASIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in various regions of the world' is one of the measures which can most effectively guarantee the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as contribute to the total elimination of nuclear weapons and achievement of general and complete disarmament;

Convinced that the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon Free-Zones in various regions will serve to protect the States of such regions against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and reaffirming the calls upon all States, particularly Nuclear Weapon States to demand Israel to cease its clandestine nuclear activities and to shut down its nuclear reactors, especially the Dimona Nuclear Reactor given the highly disturbing news on the increase of nuclear radiation leakage which may lead to an environmental disaster in the Middle East, in addition to nuclear threats it represents;

Expressing deep concern over the fact reflected in the report of the UN Secretariat to the 2000 NPT Review Conference on implementing the resolution of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference on the Middle East which states that all States of the region, with the exception of Israel, are parties to the NPT.

Underlining that the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference reaffirmed the importance of Israel's accession to the NPT and the placement of its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East.

Taking into consideration the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference as well as the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference;

Also recalling all the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, including Resolution 28/10-P(IS) adopted by the Tenth Summit of the OIC Conference and Resolution 29/30-P adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East, South East Asia and Central Asia;

Bearing in mind all the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the African Union in this respect, and recalling in particular the Declaration on Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its First Ordinary Session held in Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964 on the necessity for establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa;

Warning at the serious consequences arising from the fact that all states of the Middle East have become parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty except Israel that has not acceded to the Treaty, has not placed its nuclear facilities under the IAEA comprehensive safeguard agreements and has not declared its intention to do so, and has continued its clandestine nuclear programmes and weapon activities;

Recalling as well, all relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on this subject particularly Resolutions, 58/34, 58/30, 58/53 and Decision 58/598 on the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones in the Middle East, Africa and South East Asia and Central Asia respectively;

Noting the successful conclusion of the signing ceremony of the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zones Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) that was held at Cairo on 11 April 1996 and the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free-Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Bangkok) which was signed on 15 December 1995 and entered into force on 27 March 1997;

Welcoming the proposals made by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan aimed at achieving nuclear and missile restraint in South Asia;

Taking into consideration the initiative introduced by the Syrian Arab Republic, on behalf of the Arab Group, at the Security Council calling for the establishment of a zone free from all weapons of mass-destruction in the Middle East Region;

Convinced that the non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons cannot be achieved in the absence of progress towards universal nuclear disarmament;

Recalling the paragraphs specific to disarmament in the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of the Heads of State of Government of the NAM held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in February 2003, as well as the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, Cartagena, Colombia, April 2000, and the communique of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the NAM, held in Durban, South Africa in April 2002;

Taking Note of the Report of the Secretary-General in this respect (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22).

1. **Urges** all States, especially Nuclear Weapon States to exert pressure on Israel to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and **calls on** the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with the relevant U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487(1981), to immediately implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli nuclear facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System and to implement the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference as well as paragraphs 1-9 of the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference.

2. **Reaffirms** the determination of Member States to take measures to prevent nuclear weapon proliferation on a non-discriminatory and universal basis and **urges** all States, particularly Nuclear Weapon States to pressure Israel to cease its clandestine nuclear activities and to shut down its nuclear reactor especially the Dimona Nuclear Reactor given the highly disturbing news on the increasing possibility of nuclear radiation leakage out of it which may lead to an environmental disaster in the Middle East.

3. **Condemns** Israel for not implementing the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 NPT Extension and Review Conference and reaffirmed by the 2000 NPT Review Conference and **calls** on the United Nations, the Permanent Members of the Security Council and the international community to take the necessary measures to avert the Israeli nuclear threat endangering the peoples of the region, which constitutes a serious violation of the UN objectives, particularly Article 51 of the Charter.

4. **Calls for** the total and complete prohibition of transfer of all nuclear related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel. In this regard, expresses serious concern over the continuing development where by Israeli scientists are provided access to the nuclear facilities of one nuclear weapon state and considers that this development will have potentially serious negative implications on the regional security as well as the reliability of the global non-proliferation regime.

5. **Takes note** of the initiative introduced by the Syrian Arab Republic at the UN Security Council in the months of Safar and Shawal 1424H (April and December 2003) calling for the establishment of a zone free from all weapons of mass-destruction, particularly nuclear ones in the Middle East Region.

6. **Calls** for a speedy implementation of Para 14 of Security Council Resolution No. 687 (1991) and Resolution No. 487 (1981) and the relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions concerning the establishment of zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

7. **Requests** the Security Council to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear weapons, and a full report on its stockpile and ammunition for the consideration of the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from nuclear weapon and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region, and are fundamental factor for a just and comprehensive peace in the region and **calls upon** Member States to strive to include again the item "Israeli nuclear capabilities and its dangers" on the agenda of the forthcoming General Conference of the IAEA.

8. **Considers** that the establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia constitute one of the important elements for the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation.

9. **Calls on** Nuclear Weapon States to engage constructively through a transparent and credible process of negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament with the view to establishing within its programme of work a subsidiary body on nuclear disarmament.

10. **Requests** all Member States to keep up and further coordinate their positions at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in the Middle East, Africa, South East Asia and Central Asia.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the developments in this regard and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 33/31-P
ON
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Deeply concerned over the existence of significant nuclear arsenals in the world which increase the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Taking into consideration that it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the security of Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or of threat of use of nuclear weapons, whatever their origin;

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in which it expresses that use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the Rules of international law applicable in armed conflict and in particular the principles and rules of Humanitarian Law;

Underlining once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

Recognizing that effective measures to protect Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons positively contributes to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and strengthen international peace and security;

Deeply concerned over Israel's arsenal of nuclear weapons and its threats and practices aimed at destroying the peaceful and defense capabilities of OIC Member States;

Also deeply concerned about the Israeli threats against peaceful nuclear installations of the OIC Member States;

Deeply convinced that the most effective assurance for Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

Recalling the declaration and commitment therein made by Nuclear-Weapon-States to provide security assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in accordance with their obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and other instruments;

Noting that Nuclear Weapon States have failed to provide credible assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Recalling all relevant resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, including Resolution 30/30-P of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly as well as relevant documents of the Non-Aligned Movement on the need for assurances by nuclear powers to Non-Nuclear Weapon States to the effect that they shall not resort to the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against them;

Noting the unanimous adoption of Resolution No. 984 by the UN Security Council as well as the Declaration issued by the Nuclear Weapon States in April 1995 on positive and negative security assurances for the Non-Nuclear Weapon States which are still inadequate to assure the Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Noting also the adoption of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by the Resumed Session of the UN General Assembly on 10 September, 1996;

Expressing deep concern over the threat of use of nuclear weapons in general and against the OIC Member States in particular;

Also expressing deep concern over the nuclear posture review by a certain nuclear weapon state in which some Member States are threatened to be targets of special types of nuclear weapons;

1. **Reiterates** that the provisions for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against Non-Nuclear Weapon States is in contravention of the negative security assurances that have been provided by Nuclear Weapon States. The development of new types of nuclear weapons is in contravention with the assurances provided by the Nuclear Weapon States at the time of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which would prevent the improvement of existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons.

2. **Calls upon** all States, including those Members of the Conference on Disarmament, particularly the Nuclear Weapon States, to work urgently towards a multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument to assure unconditionally Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context. Pending the conclusion or such legally binding instrument, the Nuclear Weapon States should fully observe their existing obligations.

3. **Recommends** that the Islamic States make every effort at all international fora with a view to promoting the above-mentioned objectives aimed at strengthening the security of Non-Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

4. **Urges** the Conference on Disarmament to give utmost priority among all issues on its agenda, to the early commencement of negotiations on nuclear disarmament.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the developments in this respect and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 34/31-P
ON
THE REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits;

Affirming the commitment of all Member States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations;

Noting that unbridled regional arms race and arms build up impedes socio-economic development and efforts towards confidence building;

Noting also that the essential guidelines for progress towards General and Complete disarmament were adopted at the Tenth Special Session of the UN General Assembly vide its Resolution No. S-10/2;

Recalling Resolution 58/38 adopted by the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2003;

Noting with concern the lack of progress in the field of disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament;

Recognizing the importance of confidence building measures for regional and international peace and security;

Recalling all the relevant OIC resolutions, specially resolution No. 30/10-P (IS) of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference as well as Resolution 31/30-P of the Thirtieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the subject;

Convinced that endeavours of the Member States to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States, in particular smaller States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflict;

1. **Stresses** that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the auspices of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues, in particular nuclear disarmament, as the highest priority.

2. **Affirms** that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security.

3. **Encourages** the conclusion of multilaterally negotiated equitable and non-discriminatory agreements for global nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and confidence-building at the global, regional and sub-regional levels.

4. **Welcomes** the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and sub-regional levels.

5. **Supports and encourages** efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and sub-regional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and non-proliferation measures at regional and sub-regional levels, taking into account the relevant characteristics of each region.

6. **Considers** that regional agreements on limitations for arms production and purchases and military expenditure can contribute to fostering confidence and making resources available for development, taking into consideration the circumstances of each region.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow developments in this respect and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 35/31-P
ON
THE REGIONAL MILITARY BALANCE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Reiterating resolve of the Member States as expressed in the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures freedom, justice and security for all peoples throughout the world;

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Bearing in mind the need for redressing the asymmetries in the levels of security arising from military imbalances at regional and sub-regional levels;

Recalling all relevant OIC resolutions, in particular Resolution No. 31/10-P (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference as well as Resolution 32/30-P of the Thirtieth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on this subject;

1. **Recognizes** the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at the lowest levels.

2. **Calls upon** the international community and states concerned to adopt measures which would ease global and regional tensions and result in a just and lasting resolution of outstanding conflicts and disputes thus facilitating meaningful disarmament and arms control measures.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the developments of this subject and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 36/31-P
ON
THE PROBLEM OF DUMPING OF DANGEROUS NUCLEAR, RADIOACTIVE AND TOXIC WASTES IN THE ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Deeply concerned by the fact that the dumping of radioactive and toxic wastes endangers human life, marine flora and fauna and the ecosystem in general;

Bearing in mind the Code of Practice in the International Trans-boundary Movement of Radioactive Waste established by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the importance of updating this Code to bring it in line with the related developments since its adoption;

Also bearing in mind the conclusion, by African States of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and Control of their Trans-Boundary Movements within Africa;

Deploring the instances of dumping of toxic wastes in the territorial waters of Somalia and Turkey;

Expressing concern over the dumping by Israel of nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes as well as highly toxic pesticides and insecticides in the Mediterranean Sea, especially in the Lebanese territorial waters;

Taking note of the Report of the OIC Secretary-General in this respect (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22);

1. **Affirms** that the dumping or elimination of nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes of foreign origin in the territories and waters of Member States, and the risks that it entails for human life are a heinous crime against the people of Member States and the entire humanity.

2. **Condemns** all governmental and non-governmental entities which engage in harmful and illegal practice of dumping nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes in the international and territorial waters of the Member States which seriously threatens life and environment.

3. **Invites** all the Member States to continue their intensive campaign to enlighten their respective populations about the devastating effects of nuclear, radioactive and toxic waste on human life, flora and fauna.

4. **Calls upon** all States which produce dangerous nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling these wastes in their own countries.

5. **Urges** Member States to ban all the trans-border movements of dangerous nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes, transported without necessary safety-precautions and the prior consent of the destination country.

6. **Requests** Member States to intensify their efforts within the framework of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency to conclude a legally binding instrument on the absolute and comprehensive prohibition of any dumping of radioactive and toxic wastes and to this end **calls on** all State Parties and multi-national corporations and others to abide by the provisions of the Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 as well as other relevant international instruments.

7. **Requests also** the Member States to intensify their efforts in the IAEA in order to review the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Wastes which has been adopted by the IAEA and to update the text of this Code in conformity with the changes which have taken place since its adoption and requests the OIC Secretary-General to make the necessary contacts in this respect with the Director General of the IAEA.

8. **Calls on** all States to abide by the maritime agreements prohibiting the dumping of nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes in the territorial waters of the Member States.

9. **Takes note** of the Report of the First Meeting of Littoral Member States to consider the problem of nuclear, radioactive and toxic wastes emanating from ships that pass through the territorial waters of these States and the bordering maritime zones, and **calls on** these States to implement the recommendations therein and to continue studying this problem.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the developments on this subject and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 37/31-P
ON
PROBLEM OF MINES IN THE MUSLIM WORLD AND THE DEMINING OPERATIONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the objectives and principles of the OIC and the UN Charters;

Taking note of resolution No. 58/53 of the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 8th January 2004 on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production, transfer of mines including anti-personnel mines on their destruction;

Gravely concerned about the continued suffering and casualties caused to the civilian population as a result of the proliferation, as well as the indiscriminate and irresponsible use of anti-personnel mines;

Profoundly saddened by the high numbers of victims who have lost their lives or been injured or maimed by anti-personnel mines laid by the former colonial States in many of the developing countries including OIC Member States, without providing, thus far, any charts containing the number and location of such mines, and without contributing, whether technically or materially to their clearance;

Taking note also of the decisions taken at the 1996 Review Conference of the States' Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, particularly with respect to amending Protocol II of the Convention; and also the subsequent outcome of the annual meetings of amended Protocol II;

Reaffirming its conviction that a universal, balanced and multilaterally negotiated agreement to ban mines, including anti-personnel mines, would significantly reduce the sufferings of civilians;

Emphasizing the important role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body on the disarmament issues;

Affirming the importance of concerted international efforts towards addressing the problems of mines in affected Islamic states;

Welcoming in this regard the cooperation of the relevant international humanitarian organization such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General in this respect (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22);

1. **Expresses its deep concern** over the consequences of the indiscriminate use of mines including anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian populations and their economic development.

2. **Requests** the international community in general and the Member States in particular to step up their cooperation and their coordinated action for the clearance of mines including the anti-personnel mines, taking into account the security risks of these States.

3. **Urges** States to comply with their respective obligations arising from their adherence to the relevant legal instruments which they have acceded to.

4. **Also urges** the international community, particularly the developed countries, to provide prompt substantial, technical and financial assistance for the clearance of mines including the anti-personnel mines and to ensure that all States, especially those affected by mines, are supplied with advanced material, equipment and technology and that all efforts are made to remove all existing obstacles for the achievement of this noble objective.

5. **Calls upon** the former colonial States that had laid such mines in the territories of developing countries and particularly those of the OIC Member States, to promptly extend their technical and financial assistance to the affected countries so as to help them get rid of these mines for good, and also to make compensation for the human and material losses incurred by these countries due to those mines.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 38/31-P
ON
PREVENTING AND COMBATING THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the objectives and principles set forth in the Charters of the UN and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly the provisions relating to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Also recalling the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of the African Unity at its Thirty-Fifth Ordinary Session held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999;

Recalling further the relevant resolutions on disarmament adopted by the United Nations General Assembly as well as by the OIC, in particular Resolution 34/10-P(IS) adopted by the Tenth Islamic Summit and Resolution 35/30-P adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking note of the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations International Conference on the convening of a conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, held in July 2001 in New York and considering the biannual meeting of the States on the implementation of the Programme of Action held from 7-11 July 2003 in New York;

Reaffirming the need to preserve international peace and security in general and within the OIC Member States in particular;

Considering that the illegal manufacturing, illegal circulation and build-up of massive quantities of small arms and light weapons in the world constitute a threat to national, regional and international peace and security as well as an obstacle to the economic development of the countries and regions concerned;

Convinced of the need for a global approach with a view to encouraging at national, regional and world levels, the limitation, illegal production and trade in small arms and light weapons in a balanced, non-discriminatory and comprehensive manner;

Deeply concerned about the spread of insecurity, terrorism and organized crime linked to the illegal movement of small arms and light weapons;

Noting the close relationship between drug trafficking and illegal trade in small arms and light weapons;

Convinced also of the need to define small arms and light weapons keeping in view of the possibility of their use in future conflicts;

Taking note of the Secretary-General's Report NO. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22;

1. **Notes** with appreciation the initiative taken by the Republic of Mali for the destruction of thousands of small arms and light weapons and the mobilization of the international community for a resolute and coordinated combat against the illicit trafficking of these types of armament.

2. **Welcomes** the Bamako Declaration adopted by the African Regional Conference on the illicit trade in, and proliferation of small arms and light weapons, held in 2002 in Bamako, Mali.

3. **Notes with satisfaction** the decision taken by some countries of Sahel to set up national commissions to combat the illegal proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the Sahelo-Saharian region and of the UN Standing Consultative Committee on Security in Central Africa.

4. **Calls on** African States in particular and the OIC Member States in general to initiate and strengthen their cooperation at sub-regional, regional and global levels with a view to combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons.

5. **Notes** the initiative taken by the European Union to set up a world wide mechanism to combat the illicit accumulation and circulation of small arms and light weapons and calls on the Secretary-General of the OIC to examine ways and means to ensure an effective cooperation between the OIC, the UN, the EU, ECOWAS and relevant organizations concerned with the question.

6. **Urges** Member States to participate actively in the meetings on the follow-up to the Security Conference on combating illicit trading in drugs and small and light weapons held in New York in 2001 and requests the Secretary-General to cooperate fully with Member States in order to prepare for these meetings.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to further examine the question and to submit a report to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 39/31-P
ON
2005 NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Taking note of the necessity of the active participation of the Islamic countries party to the NPT in the 2005 Review Conference and its preparatory committees as well as in other relevant multilateral fora;

Reaffirming that all nuclear activities of Israel, including its clandestine and unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, continue to pose a grave threat endangering international peace and security particularly to the OIC Member States;

Calling for implementation of the reaffirmation by the NPT 2000 Review Conference of the necessity for Israel to accede to the Treaty and to accept putting its nuclear facilities and materials under the comprehensive safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of the 8th of July 1996, in which it recalls the obligation of the Nuclear Weapon States to initiate and conclude negotiations on complete nuclear disarmament;

Noting the Declaration of Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference on strengthening nuclear disarmament;

Taking note of the active participation of the Member States in the 2000 NPT Review Conference and encouraging the continuation of such participation in the preparatory process for the 2005 NPT Review Conference;

Concerned about the lack of progress on the implementation of the outcome of the 2000 NPT Review Conference;

Convinced of the necessity to reaffirm the universal character of the NPT which gives it force and credibility and allows the full implementation of the measures conducive to total elimination of nuclear weapons;

Underlining the need to hold the Nuclear Weapon States accountable for their obligation under Article VI of the NPT and the outcome of 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences including holding structural debates, with the NPT process to review and asses the implementation of their commitment of this obligation;

Taking note of the Secretary-General's Report (No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.22);

1. **Requests** all Islamic countries party to the Treaty to actively participate in the 2005 NPT Review Conference and its preparatory process.

2. **Requests** all States parties to pursue vigorously the objective of nuclear disarmament in the international fora, as stipulated in Article VI of the NPT, in particular the Conference on Disarmament.

3. **Invites** all States parties to the NPT in particular the permanent members of the Security Council to exert pressure on Israel to accede to the Treaty to refrain from owning nuclear weapons and their components and to place all its nuclear activities and facilities under the IAEA comprehensive safeguards taking into consideration the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, as well as the resolution adopted by the NPT Review and Extension Conference held in New York in April and May 1995 regarding a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East region as well as the outcome of the 2000 NPT Review Conference in this regard.

4. **Strongly urges** states parties to the NPT, in particular the sponsors of the Resolution on the Middle East, adopted at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, to promptly implement this Resolution with the objective of establishing a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Middle East.

5. **Requests** the Islamic countries party to NPT to conduct further consultations at the expert level to evaluate the result of the 2000 NPT Review Conference and coordinate positions for the preparatory committees and the 2005 NPT Review Conference.

6. **Recalls** the unequivocal undertakings of the Nuclear Weapon States as expressed in the final document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference to pursue nuclear disarmament and **calls upon** them to make a specific timetable for the elimination of their nuclear weapons.

7. **Calls for** fostering cooperation among the OIC Member States in the area of peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic development, taking into consideration their needs in the fields of health, sciences, agriculture, energy, research and industry in accordance with the article IV of the NPT.

8. **Considers** that the recognition by the 2000 NPT Review Conference that Israel is the only one in the Middle East region which has not acceded to the NPT is a matter which needs to be followed up through specific mechanisms which seek to establish measures that are applied against Israel if it does not accede to the treaty within a specific period of time, and requests Member States to adopt a united position at the IAEA and other relevant international fora on this issue.

9. **Requests** the Experts Group on the Security of Islamic States to submit its report on this issue to the Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the Implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 40/31-P
ON
PROMOTION OF MULTILATERALISM IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT, NON-PROLIFERATION AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Guided by the objectives and principles of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations Charter:

Welcoming the resolution 58/44 adopted at the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 8 January 2004, concerning "promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation" and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situation which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principles of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in particular, the settlement of any conflict that may arise, by peaceful means such as negotiation, mediation, reconciliation; and abstention from threat or use of force against the territorial integrity, national unity or political independence of any member states,

Reaffirming the significant roles of the international Organizations in particular the United Nations and Organization of the Islamic Conference in promotion of peace ,security and stability at the regional and global levels,

Convinced that in the era of globalization and the information revolution, arms control, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, disarmament and international security issues are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected, one way or another, by these problems and therefore should participate in the negotiations to find a comprehensive and durable solution,

Recognizing that existence of nuclear arsenals and plans to develop, produce and possible use of new generation of these inhuman weapons, in the post Cold War era, constitute the most serious and the gravest challenge to the very survival of the human-kind and endanger global efforts to strengthen regional and international peace and security,

Convinced also that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all states and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts;

Emphasizing the need to advance further in the field of arms control, non-proliferation, disarmament and international security through universal, multilateral, and non-discriminatory negotiations with a view to reaching general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Being concerned about the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that resorting to unilateral actions by member states of the United Nations in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermines confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Stressing that international cooperation, peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the enhancement of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

1. **Reaffirms** multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and international security with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope,

2. **Recognizes** the need to promote international security by resorting to multilateralism rather than unilateral actions, use of force including preemptive military strikes against the members of the international community,

3. **Underlines** the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms control and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing the mankind,

4. **Requests** the states parties to relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on their implementation in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments and refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another, to resolve their concerns,

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States to prepare a report with a view to converging the views of its Members on the issue of promotion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and international security, and submit it to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 41/31-P
ON
THE PRESERVATION OF THE SECURITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recognizing the great importance of achieving security and stability in the region without which the people cannot achieve their aspirations in development and progress towards a free and decent life;

Committed to preserving the fundamental interests of the Islamic Ummah and Islamic solidarity;

1. **Affirms** its keenness on the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq as well as its regional security

2. **Calls** for putting an end to the acts of intervention in Iraq and for refraining in the future from any such acts in order to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and the inviolability of its borders.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 42/31-P
ON
ADOPTION BY ISLAMIC STATES OF A UNIFIED STAND AT INTERNATIONAL FORA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the objectives and principles of the Organization of the Islamic Conference stipulated in its charter especially those calling for cooperation among Member States in the political, economic, cultural, scientific and social fields;

Stressing the importance of adoption by OIC Member States of an effective flexible system for periodic consultations and coordination between them on all occasions and in all international fora in all current issues of mutual concern;

Commending the constructive thoughts in the "Doha Declaration" adopted by the 9th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Doha on 16 and 17 Sha'ban 1421H (12-13 November 2000);

Considering the utmost importance of the objective by Member States of a unified common stand in the various international fora to embody and assert the strength the OIC and OIC Member States in these fora;

1. **Invites** Missions of OIC Member States at headquarters of international organizations, particularly at UN Headquarters in New York and Geneva to continue to:

a) **Coordinate** positions regularly prior to and during the regular, as well as, special sessions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly, ECOSOC and its Functional Commissions on Human Rights as well as UN Specialized and Affiliated Agencies, the World Trade Organization, Conference on Disarmament or any other relevant international/multilateral meeting, with a view to promote interest in issues vital to Member States, in accordance with the relevant Summit and ICFM resolutions.

b) **Submit** their recommendations to the respective preparatory meetings of the OIC Ministerial Conferences.

2. **Calls upon** OIC Member States to reach an effective formula or mechanism that guarantees coordination on issues of concern to the Islamic world, with a view to adopting common stands in all international fora.

3. **Urges** Member States to give extreme priority to harmonizing their stands on international issues consistent with the priority given by the whole of OIC Member States to these issues, taking into consideration the new developments.

4. **Stresses** that the Palestinian cause and the question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif should be the primary issues on which Member States must adopt a unified stand in international fora, along with other causes of the Islamic Ummah.

5. **Calls upon** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 43/31-P
ON
THE COOPERATION BY THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN WITH THE IAEA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the relevant OIC decisions and resolutions, particularly those adopted in the Tenth OIC Summit held in Putrajaya, Malaysia and the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran.

Reaffirming the inalienable rights of Member States, without discrimination, to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

Reaffirming that nothing in the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Statute, shall be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of all parties to develop and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

Noting with appreciation that the Islamic Republic of Iran has continued its cooperation with the IAEA and adopted the necessary measures to resolve the outstanding issues;

1. **Recognizes** that any attempt aimed at limiting the application of peaceful uses of nuclear energy would affect the sustainable development of developing countries.

2. **Recognizes** the inalienable right of the Islamic Republic of Iran to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, as enshrined in the NPT and the Statute of the IAEA.

3. **Expresses concern** that certain circles are putting pressure against the Islamic Republic of Iran to renounce its inalienable right to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and expresses its support and solidarity with that country.

4. **Welcomes** the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran has signed the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguard Agreements and has granted unrestricted access to all locations the Agency deemed necessary.

5. **Invites** all States to assist the IAEA Director General to establish a Framework of Cooperation, in consultation with the Islamic Republic of Iran, to bring all outstanding issues to a closure.

RESOLUTION NO. 44/31-P
ON
STRENGTHENING COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION AMONG ISLAMIC STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

In application of the teachings and noble principles of the glorious Islamic religion which urge the consolidation of solidarity and fraternity among the members of the Islamic Ummah; the opposition to sedition; and the resort to coordination and consultations among members of the Ummah in all matters;

Faithful to the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter notably provisions of Article II relating to the strengthening of solidarity, respect for the independence and sovereignty of all Member States, as well as non-interference in their internal affairs;

Recalling the resolutions of the Third Session of the Islamic Summit Conference which stressed the need to strengthen solidarity among Member States based on good neighbourliness, mutual respect and support for the causes of freedom, justice and peace;

Recalling also Resolution 16/6-P(IS) and the provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the subject;

Taking note of the relevant recommendations and proposals of the Reflection Committee, the Group of Eminent Personalities and the Intergovernmental Experts Group as well as the recommendations of the Expert Group on Correcting the Image of Islam in the Outside World, in this respect;

Recalling also all Islamic resolutions adopted in this respect, in particular Resolution No. 28/8-P (IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 30/26-P of the 26th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

1. **Calls upon** Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other Member States.

2. **Decides** that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State, and reaffirms the necessity of coordination among Member States so as to control the phenomenon of terrorism in all its manifestations and forms including intellectual terrorism and extremism.

3. **Stresses the need** to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among Member States at all levels, and to further their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

4. **Welcomes** the setting up of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States and expresses its conviction that this will help in reinforcing cooperation and consultation at all levels among Islamic nations.

5. **Requests** the OIC Secretariat to follow up consultation and coordination among representatives of member States at international organisations and fora.

6. **Invites** OIC heads of mission accredited to various countries to hold informal consultations in order to coordinate their positions with regard to important issues of concern.

7. **Invites** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 45/31-P
ON
THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the relevant resolutions of all the Islamic Summits and Foreign Ministers Conferences on the Comorian Island of Mayotte as well as the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions affirming the unity and the territorial integrity of the Union of Comoros which is composed of four Islands: Grande-Comore, Mayotte, Moheli and Anjouan;

Bearing in mind the pledges made by France on the eve of the referendum for self-determination of 22 December 1974 held in the Comoros, to respect the territorial integrity of the Archipelago on its accession to independence;

Convinced that a just and lasting solution to the quest of Mayotte is to be found in respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago;

Also bearing in mind the wish expressed by the Government of France to seek a just solution to the problem;

Taking note of the repeated wish of the Government of the Comoros to initiate as soon as possible a frank and serious dialogue with the French Government and the representatives of the inhabitants of Mayotte with a view to accelerating the return of the Comorian Island of Mayotte to the Union of Comoros;

Considering that the separation of the Island of Mayotte from the other Comorian Islands constitutes a grave violation of the territorial integrity of the Union of Comoros, and is a serious impediment to the harmonious political and economic development of that country;

Bearing in mind also the decisions of the Organization of African Unity, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the United Nations on this question;

Taking Note of the Report of the Secretary-General's respect (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/POL/SG-REP.14);

1. **Reaffirms** the unity and territorial integrity of Union of Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte.

2. **Expresses** its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supports the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity.

3. **Urges** the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Comoros;

4. **Calls upon** the Member States to collectively and individually use their good offices with France so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Union of Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

5. **Rejects** and condemn any institutional evolution of the Island of Mayotte which would tend to remove it from the integrity of the Comoro as a whole and complicate efforts exerted with a view to achieve a final settlement of the dispute.

6. **Invites** the Secretary-General to continue his contacts with the French authorities in order to convey to them the deep concern of the OIC over this problem and to follow the developments in this regard in coordination with the Secretaries General of the UN and the AU.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 46/31-P
ON THE
AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Having taken note of the information provided by the Government of Guinea on the aggression against the Republic of Guinea's borders;

Deeply concerned over the consequences of the armed attacks that have started again since 1, September 2000 and have claimed so many human lives and caused important material damage and the forced displacement of numerous people in Guinea;

Bearing in mind the Moratory of the Economic Community of the West African countries (ECOWAS) on import/export and manufacturing of light arms in West Africa, adopted in Abuja – Nigeria;

Considering the declaration dated September 13, 2000 of the Security Council of the Organization of the United Nations, condemning these intolerable aggressions;

Lauding the resolution No. 1343/2001 dated March 2001 of the Security Council of the Organization of the United Nations;

Considering the resolution No. 53-9/P ((IS) of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference condemning this aggression and expressing its solidarity to the people and the Government of Guinea;

1. **Firmly** condemns the armed aggression which afflicted the Republic of Guinea.

2. **Requests** all Member States and OIC Subsidiary Organs to take all necessary steps to the strict implementation of the resolution no. 1343/2001 adopted by the United Nations Security Council.

3. **Welcomes** the efforts and good offices of His Majesty King Mohamed VI of Morocco, who hosted on 27th February 2002, in Rabat, a meeting attended by three Head of States of MANO River Organization which was followed by the signature in Agadir (Morocco) by the Foreign Ministers of a document to follow-up the implementation of the measures adopted by the Heads of States, as well as the efforts undertaken by the ECOWAS States and the Mediation Committee composed of Mali, Nigeria and Togo. **Considers** that these measures reflect the determination of the leaders of the said countries to intensify their efforts to engage in a constructive discussion on all aspects, so as to achieve a final settlement to the crisis in the sub-region.

4. **Expresses its** support for, and solidarity with the people and Government of Guinea.

5. **Invites** the Organization of the Islamic Conference to take part in the quest for a solution and the causes of instability in West Africa.

6. **Invites** Member States, the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Islamic Development Bank to implement initiatives taken for the rehabilitation of the areas affected by this aggression.

7. **Reaffirms** its support to the Republic of Guinea in its efforts for the restoration of peace and security in the sub-region of the Mano River Union in West Africa.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 47/31-P
ON
TUNIS FORUM FOR PEACE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the UN General Assembly resolution adopted on 3 November 1993 providing for the designation of 2001 as "Year of Dialogue of Civilizations".

Recalling the principles of the World Declaration on Dialogue among Civilizations adopted in Tehran in December 1997.

Recalling the ratification, by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Ouagadougou from 28 June to 1 July 1999, of the Tehran Declaration on Dialogue among Civilizations;

Recalling the Tunis Call adopted by the international Symposium held by ISESCO from 12 to 13 November 2001 in Tunis on "Dialogue of Civilizations: Conceptualization and Implementation," under the high patronage of H.E. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and recalling the initiative of His Excellency for the establishment of a university Chair for Dialogue among Civilizations and Religions.

Recalling resolution 3/29 adopted by the 29th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran in June 2002 on the World Declaration on Dialogue among Civilizations.

Recalling the International Symposium on Islam and Peace organized by the Republic of Tunisia in cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in Tunisia from 15 to 17 April, 2003;

1. **Expresses** its profound appreciation and gratitude to H.E. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia, for gratefully hosting the International Symposium on Islam and Peace and for his patronage of the Symposium, the second of its kind held in Tunisia within one year, thus reflecting the emphasis of the Republic of Tunisia and the Organization of the Islamic Conference on projecting the values of dialogue, tolerance, moderation and peace among peoples.

2. **Hails** the lofty meanings contained in the Tunis Peace Communique adopted by the participants in the international symposium on Islam and peace adopts the invitation directed to the Government of Tunisia to establish "Tunisia Peace Forum" in cooperation with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, so as to be an intellectual and civilizational space concerned with documenting efforts to consecrate the values of peace and of action to contribute to spreading its culture and trying its foundations in thought and conduct.

3. **Invites** Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate actively in the work of this forum.

RESOLUTION NO. 48/31-P
ON
ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE OIC AND THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Reaffirming its determination to continue the consultation and exchange of views with the European Union on issues of common interest;

Recalling the Troika meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference and the European Union during the 57th Session of UNGA in New York on September 2002;

Recalling Resolution No. 45/30-P of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 28-31 May 2003 and Resolution No.44/10-P (IS) of the Tenth Session of Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 16-17 October 2003, which mandated the Secretary-General to expeditiously prepare a study on the ways and means for conducting a dialogue with the European Union (EU), including the possibility of opening, within the existing resources, an OIC Office in Brussels;

Noting with appreciation the Secretary-General's meetings with Mr. Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, and Mr. Javier Solana, EU's High Representative for Foreign Policy and Security Issues in Brussels on 03 May 2004;

Taking note also of the working level meetings of the General Secretariat and the OIC Permanent Observer Mission in Geneva with the officials of the European Commission;

Appreciating the study prepared by the General Secretariat on establishing a mechanism for dialogue between the OIC and the EU;

Requests the Secretary-General to continue to follow-up the understanding reached with the President of the European Commission and exchange working-level delegations between the Secretariats of the two organizations.

Requests the OIC Permanent Observer Mission in Geneva, pending the approval for the establishment of an OIC Office in Brussels, to continue to maintain a close liaison with the European Union.

Calls upon the General Secretariat to study the possibility of providing additional means to the OIC Permanent Observer Mission in Geneva, in compliance with existing rules and regulations of the OIC, for the purpose of maintaining this close liaison with the European Union.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 49/31-P
ON
A HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILIZATIONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling the objectives for which the OIC has been established and which have been enshrined in its Charter;

Being aware that dialogue is conducive to understanding, a better mutual knowledge and a basis for the building of tolerance and mutual respect among civilizations;

Recalling the resolutions of Islamic Summits and successive OIC Sessions which have sought to reaffirm and realize the objectives and principles of the OIC;

Appreciating the continuous efforts that the OIC has ceaselessly exerted to call for dialogue among civilizations and religions and provide international and regional intellectual and academic platforms for this purpose;

Commending the initiative of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to put forward and promote the idea of dialogue among civilizations during the 53rd Session of the UN General Assembly;

Taking note with appreciation of the initiative of the Republic of Turkey to host the meeting of the OIC/EU Dialogue;

Taking note with appreciation of the initiative of the Kyrgyz Republic to promote OIC/OSCE dialogue by holding an international conference on "Eurasia in the 21st Century - Dialogue or conflict of civilizations" in Bishkek in June 2004, in collaboration with UNESCO.

Taking note of the report submitted by the Governmental Working Group on rationalization of the OIC Conferences' agenda items and resolutions, which convened in Jeddah on 1-2 Muharram 1425H (21-22 February 2004);

Having taken note of the report of the High-level Committee which convened at the OIC General Secretariat on 16-17 Safar 1425H (6-7 April, 2004);

Having considered the comprehensive plan for the implementation of the UN and OIC resolutions on Dialogue among Civilizations, which was adopted by the High-level Committee;

1. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the High-level Committee, the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO for their efforts in preparing the comprehensive plan for the implementation of the UN General Assembly and OIC resolutions on Dialogue among Civilizations.

2. **Approves** the comprehensive plan adopted by the High-level Committee as one of the reference executive documents with respect to the issue of dialogue among civilisations.

3. **Decides** to transfer this item from the political affairs to the cultural affairs.

4. **Assigns** the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the comprehensive plan, in coordination and cooperation with the OIC specialized cultural institutions.

5. **Exhorts** the Islamic Development Bank, the specialized financial organ of the OIC to extend every possible assistance for the success of the process of inter-civilizational dialogue.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up his subject and report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 50/31-P
ON
ISLAM AND THE MUSLIM WORLD IN THE 21ST CENTURY – THE PATH OF ENLIGHTENED MODERATION

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Resolutely determined to preserve Islamic spiritual, ethical, social and economic values, which will remain one of the important factors for achieving progress of mankind;

Determined to consolidate the bonds of prevailing brotherly and spiritual friendship among their people, and to protect their freedom, and common legacy of their civilization and basing themselves on the principles of justice, tolerance and non-discrimination;

Resolutely determined to enhance human well being, freedom and progress everywhere by uniting their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures security, freedom and justice for their people and all people throughout the world;

Mindful of the transformation that has taken place in the global strategic, political and economic situation and the challenges that it poses to Islamic States and Muslims the world over as well as the opportunities that exist to pursue the common vision of a peaceful and progressive Islamic Ummah as envisioned by the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Mindful also of the need to reform, revitalize and restructure the Organization of the Islamic Conference with a view to enhancing its efficacy in addressing the political, economic, social and cultural challenges faced by the Islamic world and Muslim societies as a whole;

Determined to contribute to working together with the international community in promoting peace and prosperity for the peoples of the world and to forge harmony, tolerance and understanding among all peoples and to seek a just resolution of all conflicts and disputes;

Appreciating the successful conclusion of an international seminar on OIC Challenge and Response – Enlightened Moderation, held in Islamabad on 01-02 June 2004 and attended by 30 Islamic scholars from 28 OIC Member States.

Taking note of the recommendations of the seminar and the inaugural address of the President of Pakistan and the key note address by the OIC Secretary-General, as intellectual inputs for the consideration of the Commission of Eminent Persons.

1. Reiterates the mandate of the Tenth OIC Summit, and in this context requests the Chairman of the Islamic Summit Conference to constitute, without any further delay, a Commission of Eminent Persons from Member States to:

a) prepare a strategy and plan of action enabling the Islamic Ummah to meet the challenges of the 21st Century;

b) prepare a comprehensive plan for promoting universally and in particular within Islamic societies policies and programmes for promoting Enlightened Moderation in true consonance with the injunctions of Islam and its principles of tolerance, emancipation and exaltation of humankind;

c) prepare recommendations, for reform and restructuring of the OIC system taking into account the efforts already initiated in this regard, as well as on the question of voluntary financing of OIC's activities and programmes.

2. Further requests the Chairman of the Islamic Summit Conference to head the Commission and to take appropriate steps for finalization of its recommendations in consultation with all Member States within one year of the Commission's constitution.

3. Decides to consider the report and the recommendations of the Commission at an Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference to be held by the end of 2004.

4. Pays a special tribute to the President of Pakistan General Pervez Musharraf for his timely and important initiative on "Enlightened Moderation".

RESOLUTION NO.51/31-P
ON
COMBATING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), *held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),*

Recalling Res. 43/7-P(IS) issued by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference endorsing the Code of Conduct on combating international terrorism, and Res. 54/8-P (IS) issued by the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference as well as Res. 54/25-P issued by the 25th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on follow-up of the Code of Conduct on combating international terrorism, and Res. 59/26-P issued by the 26th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which approved the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism as well as the Extraordinary Meeting of Foreign Ministers held in Doha, Qatar on 10 December 2001;

Further recalling the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on International Terrorism issued by the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on terrorism, which was held from 1st to 3rd April 2002 and which decided to set up a Ministerial Committee emanating from the OIC and comprised of Thirteen members, for the implementation of the international texts and agreements that govern the issue of terrorism and to bring about a better understanding of Islam and its principles, to protect Muslims against all manifestations of xenophobia and to protect individuals against any prejudice that they might face as a result of preemptive measures for combating terrorism;

Also recalling the various United Nations and Security Council resolutions on Combating International Terrorism;

Reiterating, on the one hand, its commitment to the values and principles of Islam which enjoins against aggression and glorifies peace, tolerance and respect for the others, and prohibits the taking of innocent life, and its determination, on the other hand, to combat all terrorist actions.

Asserting its commitment to abide by the provisions of the OIC Agreement on Combating International Terrorism and its desire to coordinate the Member States' efforts in combating all forms and manifestations of terrorism including state-terrorism;

Underlining the importance of ensuring an atmosphere of mutual confidence and solidarity among Member States, particularly in the framework of international and regional cooperation, through the coordination and exchange of data between specialized institutions for the sake of combating international terrorism effectively;

Being aware of the adverse effects of terrorism in all its forms on the image of Islam;

Highlighting the importance of addressing the reasons which underlie international terrorism, in other words, the environment that promotes it such as foreign occupation, injustice, ostracism, poverty and the widening gap between rich and poor;

1. **Affirms** that the phenomenon of terrorism is antithetical to all the teaching of Islam which advocates tolerance and non-violence and enjoins against all forms of aggression, and above all the killing of human life, regardless of colour, religion or race.

2. **Calls again** for the convening of an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations to set a definition for the concept of terrorism and distinguish it from the peoples' national liberation struggle.

3. **Reiterates**, in this connection, that the struggle of peoples plying under the yoke of foreign occupation and colonialism, to accede to national freedom and establish their right to self-determination, does not in any way constitute an act of terrorism.

4. **Urges all** Member States to sign, ratify and enforce the provisions of the "OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism".

5. **Also urges** all Member States to work along with the rest of the nations to bolster the international community's efforts under UN supervision to combat international terrorism in a transparent and integral way consistent with the Organization's charter principles and with the relevant international agreements and mechanisms. Particular reference needs to be made to the necessary implementation of the Security Council resolutions, above all Res. 1373 which calls upon states to prepare reports on the initiatives taken by their governments in their anti-terrorist efforts.

6. **Invites** the 13-Member Committee issued from the Kuala Lumpur 2002 meeting and assigned to study the issues linked to combating terrorism, to meet as soon as possible and work out appropriate recommendations on combating international terrorism and promoting a better understanding of the Islamic faith and its principles, and to coordinate between the OIC on the one hand and other regional and international organizations, on the other.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution in cooperation with the Member States and to report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex IV

Resolutions on Muslim communities and minorities in States not members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-MM
ON
SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS OF MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES IN NON-OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling that Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States account for over one third of the Islamic Ummah;

Recalling also the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences, Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and international covenants, declarations and agreements, particularly those calling for observance of human rights in the political, social, cultural, economic and religious fields;

Further recalling UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

Reaffirming its commitment to Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States and **expressing** its concern at the forms of intolerance towards some of these communities and minorities in particular in the western hemisphere;

Condemning the persecution and violations committed against Muslim communities and minorities in a number of non-OIC Member States;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on the situation of Muslim Communities and minorities (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/MM/SG.REP.1):

1. **Commends** the efforts made by the Secretary-General for the implementation of the resolutions adopted on the Islamic Communities and Minorities in Non-Member States, and **URGES** the Contact Group, composed of the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations in New York and Geneva to follow-up cases of violation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-Member States and report thereon to the General Secretariat.

2. **Affirms** that the preservation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States is, essentially, a responsibility of the governments of these states based on commitment to the principles of International Law and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

3. **Emphasizes** the need for action to enable Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States to preserve their religious and cultural identity and to , enjoy equal treatment in terms of rights, obligations and duties.

4. **Invites** the General Secretariat to continue to receive representatives of Muslim Communities and Minorities in non-OIC Member States with a view to closely monitoring the conditions and to extending assistance for the development of their societies within the framework of respect for the sovereignty of their home states.

5. **Calls Upon** Member States and various Islamic institutions and bodies to continue to provide the General Secretariat with available updated information, studies and statistics on the condition of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States so that the department of Muslim Minorities can create a database enabling it to fulfill the tasks entrusted to it in this respect.

6. **Urges** Member States to coordinate efforts to train able workers who can perform Islamic Dawa missions among Muslim communities in various countries of the world. These workers should include qualified women. A series of integrated educational books on Islam, its rites and principles should be prepared in the form of simplified publications or audio-visual material to be carefully translated to the languages of the countries where these Muslim communities live.

7. **Requests** the General Secretariat to make contacts with the governments of non-Member States in order to develop a cooperation formula with the OIC aimed at improving the conditions of these Muslim communities in their countries at preserving their religious and cultural identity.

8. **Invites** the General Secretariat to follow up the activities of the relevant organizations and international forums so as to keep abreast of developments on the situation of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States

9. **Reaffirms** the commitment of Member States to respect the rights of non-Muslim communities and minorities living in their territories, in accordance with the tolerant teachings of Islam and relevant international charters.

10. **Denounces** the vilifications made by some circles in non-OIC Member States concerning the ill-treatment of non-Muslim communities in OIC Member States (in the name of religious freedoms and so on) as well as the allegations that the latter adopt procedures and measures and enact domestic laws in contradiction with the UN Charter and the principles of international law, with a view to using these allegations as a pretext to interfere in the internal affairs of these Member States.

11. **Invites** the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the follow-up to the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on considering the situation of the Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, to establish coordination

between them in international quarters concerning the conditions of these minorities and communities in non-OIC Member States.

12. **Approves** the report and recommendations of the Ninth meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Muslim Affairs in non-Member States held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 11 to 12 April, 2004 and **calls on** Member States and the General Secretariat to implement them, and **urges** this Group of Experts to continue its work on a regular basis.

13. **Invites** the General Secretariat to hold the symposium which had been recommended by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts to be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva on Questions of Muslim Communities in Non-OIC Member Countries and urges Member States to participate in and contribute to the success of this activity, and requests the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to extend financial and technical contributions towards the holding of this Conference.

14. **Invites** the Non-Governmental Experts Group of the Committee on the Coordination of Joint Islamic Action entrusted with devising a Plan of Action to Safeguard the rights of Muslim Communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, composed of eminent Muslim figures to meet and finalize the setting up of a comprehensive plan to safeguard the identities of Muslim Communities and minorities in non-Member States.

15. **Highly appreciates** and calls for the implementation of recommendations adopted by the meetings and symposia organized by the General Secretariat in many non-Muslim countries, with the cooperation of Islamic organizations, institutions and bodies working in this field, and calls of the General Secretariat to exert more efforts to undertake more of these activities in the future.

16. **Invites** the General Secretariat to continue to hold regular meetings and extended conferences of Muslim Community and minority affairs in non-OIC Member States in various parts of the world, preferably in a Muslim community and minority country, once preparations and planning have been done for these meetings. The General Secretariat may refer to the Intergovernmental Group on Muslim Communities and Minorities regarding anything it may require to hold these symposia in the best conditions.

17. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/31-MM
ON
QUESTION OF MUSLIMS IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Bearing in mind the resolutions of the OIC and the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee of Eight on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines;

Recalling the Tripoli Agreement signed on 23 December 1976, under the auspices of the OIC, between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) which the signatory parties agreed to consider as the basis for a permanent, just and comprehensive political solution to the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines within the framework of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines;

Paying tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in facilitating the peace process culminating in the signing of the Final Peace Agreement on 2 September 1996, and express satisfaction for the efforts of the Ministerial Committee of the Eighth in this regard;

Recalling also that in accordance with the two Memoranda of Understanding with which the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front concluded two rounds of preliminary talks, held successively in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 3-4 October, 1992 and in Cipanas, Western Java, Republic of Indonesia on 14-16 April, 1993, the two parties agreed to conduct official peace negotiations for the full implementation of the letter and spirit of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement;

Further recalling the results of the four rounds of formal peace talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia, including the subsidiary mechanisms, between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front, through facilities made available by the OIC Committee of Eight;

Commending the agreement reached by the participants in the Fourth Round of Formal Peace Talks to reaffirm all the points of agreement in the 1994, 1995 and 1996 Interim Agreements and to include them in the Final Agreement provided for in the 1976 Tripoli Agreement;

Taking note of the important developments recorded in implementing the 1996 Peace Agreement between the Government of Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front

(MNLF), in accordance with the terms of the said peace Agreement and the national laws of the Republic of Philippines.

Taking note of the efforts and interests of the international community, particularly the United Nations, as shown by the 24 September 2003, meeting between Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Philippines and His Excellency Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations where the latter offered to assist to find comprehensive, peace and lasting political solution to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) problem (Bangsamoro problem);

Taking into account the report of the Chairman of the Committee of the Eight before the 10th Summit of the OIC in Putrajaya, on 16 October 2003 mentioning that the social and economic developments which are elements of the Phase 2 of the Peace Agreement are already in progress and the phase 1 consisting of military and political aspects of the Agreement has therefore been completed.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Question of Muslims in Southern Philippines (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/MM/SG.REP.2).

1. **Renews** its support to the “Peace Agreement” between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) initialled on 30 August 1996 in Jakarta and officially signed on 2 September 1996 in Manila.

2. **Calls on** both the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MNLF to preserve the gains achieved as a result of the signing of the "Peace Agreement".

3. **Commends** the Moro National Liberation Front, the sole legitimate representative of Muslims in Southern Philippines ("Bangsamoro people"), **also commends** the facilities extended by the MNLF to the work of the Committee of Eight and its negotiation with the Government of the Philippines.

4. **Pays tribute** to the role of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the wise leadership of H.E. Colonel Moomar Gaddafi, in achieving the Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and in hosting the first preliminary talks in Tripoli from 3 to 4 October, 1992 and the Unity and Solidarity Meeting of the MNLF leaders on 6 April, 2003.

5. **Also pays tribute** to the role of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in facilitating the peace process culminating in the signing of the Final Peace Agreement on 2 September 1996 and expresses satisfaction with the efforts of the Ministerial Committee of Eight in this regard.

6. **Lauds** the efforts of the Chairman of the Ministerial Committee of the Eight, together with the Foreign Minister of Malaysia, to report to the representatives of the MNLF and the Government of the Philippines, on the results of the above-mentioned meeting in Doha,

including among others, the reaffirmation of the position of the Organization of the Islamic Conference stating that the question of the MNLF leadership is an internal one that concerns the MNLF to resolve.

7. **Urges** Member States and subsidiary organs, specialised and affiliated institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank, to increase their economic, financial, technical and material assistance for the development and rehabilitation of the Southern Philippines through the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

8. **Recognizes** the significant developments that have taken place in the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement, including the conduct of a plebiscite in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), as mandated by the 1996 Peace Agreement between the GRP and the MNLF.

9. **Commissions** the Ministerial Committee of Eight and the Secretary-General to continue the necessary contacts with the Government of the Philippines and the MNLF, for complete implementation of the Peace Agreement and defining a time table to finalize the implementation of all the articles of the Peace Agreement of 1996.

10. **Decides** that Phase I has been completed with the committee of eight to continue monitoring its implementation and urges both the GRP and MNLF to fully implement phase II of the 1996 Peace Agreement.

11. **Decides** to maintain the observer status and the participation of the MNLF in the activities of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Bangsamoro people in Southern Philippines in order to improve the conditions of this people in accordance with the provisions of the Peace Agreement.

12. **Welcomes** the efforts of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Malaysia for restoring peace in Southern Philippines, which were crowned by signing cease-fire the Agreement between the GRP and the MILF in the meeting held in Tripoli on 22.6.2001.

13. **Also welcomes** the efforts of the Government of Malaysia for promoting Bangsamoro solidarity and for extending its good offices leading to the signing of the Agreement for unity between the MNLF and the MILF in the meeting held in Cyberjaya, Malaysia, on 7 August 2001.

14. **Welcomes** the Tripoli Declaration adopted by the Unity and Solidarity meeting of the leaders The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), held on 6 April 2003, which emphasized the unity and solidarity of the Moro people and their pledge to exert their utmost efforts and endeavors to achieve the vision and objectives of the Moro National Liberation Front aimed at securing justice, freedom and security for the Bangsamoro people under a single organization and leadership.

15. **Urges** the Member States, Subsidiary Organs, Affiliated and Specialized Institutions as well as Charitable Islamic Organizations in the Member States to extend medical, humanitarian, economic, financial and technical assistance for the development and rehabilitation of Southern Philippines.

16. **Appeals** to all Islamic and other charitable organizations in OIC Member States to continue to extend economic, humanitarian and other assistance through appropriate channels aimed at helping displaced people in areas affected by conflict in Mindanao.

17. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-MM
ON
THE SITUATION OF THE TURKISH MUSLIM MINORITY IN WESTERN THRACE IN GREECE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers(Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Reaffirmed its commitment to Muslim communities and minorities living in non-OIC Member States;

Realizing that the Muslims in Greece, in general, and the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace in particular are an integral part of the Muslim World;

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences, Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and international conventions, declarations and agreements calling for observance of human rights, namely political, social, cultural and economic rights and freedom of worship, and most particularly the Lausanne Treaty which guarantees the rights of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace such as to use their Turkish language, to practice their religious rites and to elect freely their representatives in all fields;

Further recalling UN General Assembly Declaration on Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

Realizing that the basic rights and freedoms of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace are defined and protected by multilateral and bilateral Treaties and Agreements to which Greece is a party;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the issue of the Turkish Muslim Minority of Western Thrace in Greece (Document No.ICFM/31-2004/MM/SG-REP.3);

1. **Condemns** the judicial harassment of the elected Muftis of Xanthi and Komotini, Mr. Mehmet Emin Aga and Mr. Ibrahim Serif.

2. **Demands** that the necessary steps for the election of the administration board of the Waqfs be taken to enable their self-governance.

3. **Urges** Greece to take all measures to respect the rights of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace and urgently recognize the elected Muftis of Xanthi and Komotini as the official Muftis.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to inquire the authenticity of the continuing reports about the destruction of Mosques and Muslim cemeteries and present a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-MM
ON
THE MUSLIM MINORITY IN MYANMAR

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Reaffirming its obligations to the Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States;

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by previous sessions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, and international covenants, declarations and conventions, particularly those calling for the respect of political, social, cultural, economic and religious human rights;

Realizing that the Muslim minority in Myanmar constitutes an integral part of the Islamic world;

Deploring information indicating the continuing oppression, dispersion, and deprivation suffered by Muslims in the Republic of Myanmar, in addition to the denial of their basic rights, as citizens;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Muslim Minority in Myanmar (Document No. ICFM/31-2004/MM/SG.REP.4);

1. **Commissions** the Islamic Contact Group entrusted under Resolution No. 38/24-P with considering the conditions of Muslim communities and minorities, to monitor violations of the rights of the Muslim minority in Myanmar and submit a report thereon to the OIC General Secretariat.

2. **Urges** Member States to lend moral and political support to the Muslims of Myanmar and to facilitate the steps needed for a dialogue between them and the Government so as to enable them to exercise their basic rights on an equal footing with other citizens in Myanmar.

3. **Urges** the government of Myanmar to review its treatment of Muslims in Myanmar and to enact necessary laws founded on human dignity and on equality of all citizens without discrimination.

4. **Requests** the OIC Secretary-General to hold further contacts with the parties concerned and to report thereon to the next Ministerial Conference.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the situation of the Muslim Minority in Myanmar and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex V

Resolutions on economic affairs

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 1/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia;

Also recalling Resolution No. 1/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Further recalling Resolution No. 6/24-E of the 24th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, in which Member States were invited to reinforce Sub-Regional and Regional Markets and relaunch the existing economic integration projects among themselves;

Noting that globalization and increasing liberalization have made the external environment for development crucial particularly since OIC Member States have become more vulnerable to the intense competition and unpredictable fluctuations in international trade, instability in the financial and monetary flows as well as to the changes in technology;

Noting with concern that the world economy faces severe periodical fluctuations and crises in some regions which affect other regions with impacts on various fields due to the strong interdependence among world economies;

Stressing the urgency for the international community to work for a global approach towards financial crisis;

Aware of the need to improve the capacities and modalities of the International financial institutions, with regard to the prevention, management and resolution of international financial crises in a timely and effective manner;

Aware of the fact that, as a result of the current trends of globalization and liberalization, a large number of OIC Member States are bearing a disproportionate share of the adjustment burden;

Recognizing that the effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements would necessitate a certain measure of adaptation in the economic and administrative structures of the Member States to safeguard their interests and to take maximum advantage of the opportunities to be created thereby;

Endorsing the Monterrey consensus of the International Conference of Financing for Development held in Monterrey, Mexico on 18-22 March, 2002;

Further aware of the need to further strengthen cooperation and coordination among OIC Member States to ensure expansion in intra-OIC trade;

Having taken note with appreciation of the studies prepared by SESRTCIC on world economic developments and ICDT on intra-OIC trade;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter,

1. **Stresses** the need to promptly take practical steps, foremost of which is to set up joint investment projects among Member States, to achieve economic complementarity between them to ensure economic integration among the OIC Member States with the ultimate objective of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step-by-step basis, and **commends** the efforts exerted by the Arab Economic and Social Council to create a major Arab free trade zone and **encourages** the regional organizations in which Member States participate, especially the ECO, SINSAD, ECOWAS, CEMAC and CEMAO to continue their efforts in this area.

2. **Underlines** the need to devise ways and means to minimize the adverse effects of the globalization on the economies of the OIC Member States as well as to enable them to harness opportunities provided by globalization.

3. **Calls on the** international community to adopt appropriate measures to ensure that the benefits of globalization are shared by all countries on an equitable basis so as to ensure balanced advantages and obligations of developing countries including OIC Member States.

4. **Calls upon** the developed countries for further liberalization and increased access for the products and services where developing countries have a comparative advantage, and access to transfer of technology on concessional terms as well as to investment and technology.

5. **Urges** the Member States to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation and economic policy coordination among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

6. **Urges also** the Member States to coordinate their efforts aimed at making the necessary contacts with the concerned international parties and organizations so as to safeguard their economic interests and not to prejudice their exports of various commodities and materials.

7. **Calls on** the developed countries to create a more practical, equitable and transparent environment enabling developing countries to implement their structural adjustment programmes to enable them to achieve sustainable development and **urges** them to support the Common Fund established by UNCTAD with a view to stabilizing raw material prices.

8. **Notes with appreciation** the exchange of views on current world economic issues that are held regularly during the annual sessions of the COMCEC which constitute valuable occasions for the Member States to share their experiences and coordinate their positions on these issues.

9. **Notes with concern** the extraterritorial application by a number of developed countries of their domestic legislation which adversely affect foreign investments in other countries, including the OIC Member States; **rejects** all coercive measures, which are null and void from the perspective of international law; and **recalls** in this connection the UN General Assembly Resolution 57/5 elimination of coercive unilateral and extraterritorial economic measures to exert political and economic pressure as an attempt by the international community to put an end to such practices.

10. **Agrees** on the need to closely monitor the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements and requests the General Secretariat and related OIC Institutions to study new and emerging trends and report making proposals to implement technical assistance programmes to assist those Member States which might have difficulties in responding to the new challenges.

11. **Recognizes** that the current phase of globalization and restrictive labour mobility are widening the income disparities between the developed and developing countries and that efficient labour migration management is essential for closing down such disparities and reducing the negative impacts of globalization through facilitating the flow of trade, capital, skills and ideas.

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31-E
ON
SUPPORTING THE REFORMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 2/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 2/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recognising that the recent South East Asian financial crisis was not only rooted in the macroeconomic vulnerabilities in several of the affected economies but was also caused by weaknesses in the current arrangements that govern the international financial system;

Accepting that weaknesses in the arrangements that make up the international monetary system have allowed excessive risk taking, imprudent investor behaviour and speculative activities;

Further recognizing that recent developments in both global and domestic economic environment as well as the emerging trend towards inter-dependence among developing countries, including Islamic countries, have spurred economic collaboration and integration;

Recalling that a high degree of agreement has been achieved in the various form on ways to reform the international financial architecture, particularly in the critical areas of strengthening financial systems, enhancing transparency and disclosure and improving the approaches to crisis prevention and resolution, including by involving the private sector and improved coordination between the international financial institutions;

Taking note with appreciation of the study prepared and submitted by SESRTCIC on the subject.

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Underscores** the importance of developing an orderly and strengthened international financial system.

2. **Underlines** that the reforms of the international financial architecture should aim at addressing the fundamental weaknesses of the free market system and inherent instability of the international financial system through achieving the following:

   a. avoid destabilising capital flows to maximise benefits from globalised capital markets, thereby minimising risk;
   b. contain the adverse impact of currency trading especially on small economies;
   c. mitigate occurrence of future crisis;
   d. limit the contagion effect of any crisis; and
   e. achieve symmetry in efforts of governments and the private sector.

3. **Appreciates** the contributions and efforts made by the various fora such as the G-7, APEC, ASEAN, the G-15, the G-20 as well as the international financial and regulatory bodies such as the IMF, World Bank, the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) to strengthen the international financial architecture;

4. **Stresses** the need to maintain the momentum for reforming the global financial architecture.

5. **Agrees** that the issue still requires crucial action particularly in areas pertaining to exchange rate systems and the adoption of monetary and financial policies likely to encourage capital inflow.

6. **Calls** for effective representation of the developing and emerging market economies in the consultations and decision-making on the reforms of the international financial architecture;

7. **Calls** for greater participation of private sector in the prevention and resolution of financial crisis and the application of standards of transparency and disclosure of economic and financial information equally to the public and private sectors.

8. **Requests** SESRTCIC to continue studying the matter, particularly from the point of view of its implications for the OIC Member States to formulate fresh proposals and recommendations thereon and submit periodic reports to the annual session of the COMCEC and thereafter to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for active consideration for implementation.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-E
ON
STRENGTHENING THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 3/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 3/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Reaffirming Member States' commitment to progressive trade liberalisation and cooperation in strengthening the multilateral trading system;

Recalling the related decisions of the COMCEC which have the subject on its agenda as a permanent item;

Appreciating the efforts of IDB and ICDT in assisting and appraising the Member States on matters related to WTO.

Recognising that the effective functioning of the multilateral trading system is pivotal in contributing towards enhancing growth and development;

Desiring that the multilateral trading system provide equitable benefits for all members through trade liberalisation and fair rules;

Taking note with appreciation of the report submitted by ICDT;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Calls** on OIC Member States who have acceded to the WTO to support and facilitate negotiations for the accession of the other Member States which have not yet joined the WTO.

2. **Urges** the WTO and its Member States to:

    i. **facilitate** the accession of all States to the WTO to ensure its universality in decision-making, emphasize the importance of clarity and transparency of membership procedure, and avoid requiring states wishing to adhere to meet unfair requirements or conditions beyond the commitments of member states with equal status on the development scale;

ii. **stress** the need to ensure that political considerations should not impede the process of accession to the WTO;

iii. **accord** priority and urgency in addressing the developmental issues;

iv. **ensure** that the agenda for further negotiations remains focused, balanced and manageable, taking into account the limited resources and the level of development of many developing countries, in particular the LDCs;

v. **strengthen** the development dimension in multilateral trade agreements, including operationalizing the special and differential treatment provisions such as extending the transitional period in implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreement, increasing the share of the LDCs in world trade through special privileges in the form of duty and quota free access of LDC goods and services to developed markets, providing technical assistance, ensuring transfer of technology, and eliminating barriers in the free movement of labour;

vi. **reject** the inclusion of non-trade issues, such as labour and environmental standards, into the work programme of the WTO, given its detrimental effects to the evolution of a just, free and fair trading environment as reiterated by most WTO members;

vii. **ensure** the availability of sufficient resources for technical cooperation activities to assist developing countries implement WTO agreements and decisions;

viii. **review** the structure of the decision making process of the WTO to ensure greater transparency of the WTO process and ensuring effective participation of WTO members in this process;

ix. **ensure** that technical assistance by WTO shall also contribute to capacity building in developing countries, in particular the LDCs;

x. **put in place** a supportive mechanism for the LDCs to face the challenges in the post-MFA regime which will have adverse impact on the growth in their apparel export.

3. **Notes** that the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference was held in Cancun, Mexico on 10-14 September 2003 and **expresses** concern that the Conference could not be successful due to lack of response from the developed countries in addressing the concerns of the developing countries on major trade issues, and **calls for** immediate resumption of the trade negotiations under the auspices of WTO.

4. **Calls on** the international community to put an end to agricultural subsidies which penalize the producers of developing countries; **welcomes** in particulars, the initiative of some African Member States to maintain the stability of the commodity price of cotton and to develop their indigenous cotton processing industry so that the export earnings of the cotton-producing countries are not eroded; and **calls on** the Member States and concerned OIC institutions to support this initiative.

5. **Commends** the IDB for its sincere efforts in raising awareness among OIC Member States of the wide-ranging impact of the Uruguay Round agreements on their economies, and in reinforcing the capabilities of Member States, including its negotiating capabilities, preparing them fully for the negotiations in the context of the WTO, and calls on IDB to continue in its efforts.

6. **Urges** the UNCTAD to undertake studies on the necessary measures to bring about a balance in cost and benefits for the developing countries in adopting the new trade and economic regimes taking into account their different levels of development and ability to compete.

7. **Calls on** Member States to consolidate their efforts and coordinate their positions in international organizations, in particular in WTO, World Bank and IMF.

8. **Requests** IDB and ICDT to continue their efforts and submit periodic reports to the COM`CEC and related OIC fora.

9. **Requests** ICDT in collaboration with IDB to prepare a study on matters related to the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the WTO and its impact on OIC Member States.

10 **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-E
ON
IMPLICATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004), Recalling Resolution No. 4/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 4/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with appreciation the reports submitted by the SESRTCIC, ICDT and IDB;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General in this respect,

1. **Urges** Member States to intensify trade exchanges between them and to work seriously on removing the obstacles which impede progress in this area.

2. **Calls upon** Member States to emphasize cooperation more in terms of project oriented integration arrangements.

3. **Calls on** the Member States to take maximum advantage of the studies prepared by SESRTCIC and ICDT on the impact of the entry into circulation of the Euro on the economies of the Member States.

4. **Emphasizes** the necessity to give priority to cooperation in the area of physical infrastructure, such as transport and communications, as well as in research, training and technology in these regional arrangements.

5. **Requests** the developed countries giving preferences to OIC Member States under various schemes to examine the erosion that is likely to occur in these preferences as a result of the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements and to consider restoring these losses by other trade concessions or forms of compensation.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LAND-LOCKED MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 5/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 5/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its profound concern over the serious economic problems faced by the Least-Developed Member States in particular the sharp decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA);

Expressing concern over the lack of access by the Least Developed Member States to private financial flows, and noting with regret the diminishing shares of these countries in official capital flows.

Expressing concern over the sharp decline in the prices of the raw materials, particularly those produced and exported by the least developed countries; as well as over the marginalisation of the LDCs in the world economy.

Having taken note with satisfaction that the Islamic donor countries continued to provide significant external aid and that the amount of aid distributed to the least developed countries exceeded 0.15 per cent of their Gross Domestic Product;

Noting with appreciation the efforts of UNCTAD in favour of the Least Developed and Land-locked countries and its useful annual Report on the Least Developed Countries and the Trade and Development Report.

Expressing satisfaction with the IDB's efforts for the extension of assistance to the Least Developed Countries and for the opening of a special account for them as approved by the IDB's Board of Governors at its Seventeenth Annual Session held in Tehran in November 1992;

Recalling the decision taken at the 30th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 28-30 May 2003, on setting up an open-ended OIC intergovernmental group of experts, including representatives of the OIC General Secretariat, Islamic Development Bank, Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries to study the ways and means of implementing the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for 2001-2010;

Noting with appreciation the study prepared and presented by SESRTCIC on the Problems of Least Developed and Land-locked Member States;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Emphasizes** the importance of achieving reductions in the outstanding debt of the Least Developed Countries to sustainable levels through debt-relief measures, particularly the HIPC initiative, in order to help relieve their financial burdens, enhance their credit-worthiness and improve their external financial prospects.

2. **Appeals** to the international community, particularly the developed countries, to fully and expeditiously implement the Programme of Action for 2001-2010 adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May, 2001.

3. **Endorses** the Cotonou Declaration adopted by the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed countries held in Cotonou, Benin from 5 to 7 August, 2002;

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to setup an OIC intergovernmental group of experts and submit proposals to the 32nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to study the ways and means of the implementing the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for 2001-2010.

5. **Emphasizes** the need for simplifying and relaxing the rules of origin criteria in favour of the LDCs to enable them to attain the maximum benefit out of the specialized and differential treatments offered by the developed and developing countries.

6. **Calls upon** the international community to help the LDCs to progressively integrate themselves into the world economy and strengthen LDC's capacity to participate in the multilateral trading system, including facilitating accession to WTO by those LDC's which are not already members.

7. **Urges** developed countries to increase their contributions and initiate new means within the framework of the International Development Strategy and to follow the example of countries who converted the debts contracted by the least developed countries into grants in order to facilitate the implementation of the structural adjustment measures undertaken by these countries.

8. **Expresses** concern at the declining trend in the quantity of ODA to the LDCs and stresses the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and the Least Developed Countries in particular and calls upon developed countries to continue providing their official development assistance in parallel with facilitating the access of the products of the developing and the least developed countries to the markets of developed countries.

9. **Notes with satisfaction** the efforts of some Member States to extend assistance in the technical, financial, food and other forms to the least developed Member States and hopes that such assistance will continue.

10 **Appreciates** the efforts of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry in initiating a proposal of activating private sector in Islamic Least Developed Countries and Land-locked countries by establishing a Network of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in these countries.

11. **Notes** that the Task Force on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) set up by the OIC Secretary-General held three meetings successfully, the first one being held on 27-29 January 2002 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the second in Maputo, Republic of Mozambique on 19-21 May 2003 and the third in Lahore, Pakistan on 16-18 March 2004.

12. **Calls upon** the land-locked countries, their transit neighbours and donor countries to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with the transit problems in accordance with the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries.

13. **Recognizes** the necessity to respond effectively to the needs of Land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructure and road network and called on the developed countries to provide the necessary assistance to promote trade among the various parties.

14. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/31-E
ON
ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LOW-INCOME OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 6/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 6/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Reiterating the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty, notably in the Least Developed and Low-income Islamic countries;

Acting in conformity with Islamic rules and precepts as well as the OIC Charter and moved by the spirit of Islamic solidarity;

Noting that Micro-Credit programmes by providing access to small capital, contribute towards eradication of poverty through generating productive self-employment, ensuring social and human development, and promoting participatory processes in the societies; and noting further the support to micro-credit extended by various Summits and other high level meetings;

Noting that the international community is observing the period 1997-2006 as the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty.

Recognizing that, in the process of globalization, the marginalization of the developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, has created constraints to the efforts to eradicate poverty;

Noting with appreciation the study prepared and submitted by SESRTCIC on "Eradication of Poverty in the Least Developed and Low-income OIC Member States";

Reiterating the importance of collective efforts by the international community towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals as contained in the UN Millennium Summit Declaration of 2000;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter;

1. **Reaffirms** that the eradication of poverty in all Member States before the end of the next decade constitute a common objective of OIC Member States.

2. **Confirms** the link between the acute nature of the poverty phenomenon and the distortion of the socio-economic structures, marginalization in the global economy, and deterioration of terms of trade, due to the inappropriate international conditions, particularly those relating to the requisites of economic growth and development.

3. **Urges** the developed Industrial States and International institutions to take specific measures for the fulfilment of the commitments made at the World Social Summit, held in Copenhagen, as well as other international fora so as to enable the Least Developed Member States to attain this objective.

4. **Notes** with appreciation the holding of the World Food Summit: Five Years Later on 12-13 June 2002 in Rome, which adopted a set of important decisions on combating famine and securing food security for all countries, and urges the Member States to take necessary measures for their implementations.

5. **Notes also** with appreciation the important role played by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in combating poverty and famine and **Encourages** the developed countries and Member States to continue providing their support to IFAD.

6. **Encourages** incorporation of micro-credit schemes in the strategy of poverty eradication and implementation of related recommendations as reflected in the Plan of Action adopted in the Micro-Credit Summit held in Washington from 2-4 February 1997.

7. **Reaffirms** that a favourable international economic environment within the framework of the concessions to be granted to them in terms of providing financial and technical assistance and investment resources; and access to international markets with raw materials price stability and appropriate structural programmes, is necessary for the success of the efforts being exerted by LDCs and low income countries in eradicating poverty.

8. **Appeals** to developed countries that have not yet done so to achieve as soon as possible the agreed target of 0.7% of the GNP for overall official development assistance and, to achieve the 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of GNP for the least developed countries.

9. **Urges** the LDCs and low income countries to play in a more coordinated manner a more active role in international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

10. **Requests** Member States to intensify implementation of technical cooperation programmes among themselves with a view to improving the health educational, human and housing conditions as well as other basic needs of their respective population.

11. **Welcomes** the adoption of a resolution by the Fifty-seventh Session of the United Nations General Assembly (December 2002) on setting up of an international solidarity fund to tackle poverty and to promote human advancement in the developing countries, as well as the initiative of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Tunisia, Mr. Zine El-Abidine, pioneer of the successful Tunisian experiment of the National Solidarity Fund, which confirms the far sightedness of His Excellency on issues of sustainable development and human advancement within the framework of solidarity and mutual help among members of society, as prescribed by our magnanimous religion; and **calls upon** Member States, civil society institutions and the private sector in those countries as well as international donor institutions to contribute to mobilizing financial resources for the International Solidarity Fund projects aimed at combating poverty in the most needy countries.

12. **Encourages** the Member States to share among themselves the best practice models for poverty alleviation implemented by both public and private sectors in comparable as well as adaptable situations.

13. **Encourages** Member States and competent OIC organs and institutions, particularly the IDB and ICCI, to support the on-going development programmes of OIC Least Developed Countries and the low income ones, with a view to encouraging and strengthening the SMEs by providing support service measures for enhancing their local technical capabilities creating production and job opportunities.

14. **Requests** the more advanced Member States of OIC to reduce tariff barriers on goods and services of the Least Developed Member States to help them broaden their market base and also to provide long-term FDI to help the latter, inter alia, to avert the risks of fluid capital transactions and speculative investment.

15. **Stresses** the importance of collective action by all Member States as well as effective national economic and fiscal policies aimed at mobilization of national resources for combating poverty.

16. **Reaffirms** the need to give special priority to the Least Developed and poorer Member States.

17. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/31-E
ON
EXTERNAL DEBT OF AFRICAN AND OTHER OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 7/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 7/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its deep anxiety over the external debts of the developing Member States which have been increasing at an alarming rate for the last few years;

Noting with concern the growing debt-servicing problems of externally indebted developing countries as constituting an element adversely affecting their development efforts;

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has written off the official debt of a certain number of least developed/landlocked and/or Sahelian Member States;

Appreciating the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait, who as Chairman of the Fifth Session of the Organization of the Islamic Summit Conference, declared in his speech to the UN General Assembly on 27/9/1990 that in order to alleviate the burden of indebtedness of the developing States, the State of Kuwait took the initiative of writing off the interests due on development loans extended to developing States;

Also expressing its appreciation for the efforts made by His Majesty the King Hassan II, may Allah rest his soul in peace, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit and the Secretary-General in the framework of the implementation of the resolutions of the Seventh Islamic Summit on the debt of OIC Member States;

Noting with appreciation the study prepared and submitted by SESRTCIC on "The External Debt Situation of Sub-Saharan African OIC Member States";

Having also taken note of the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Appeals** to international creditors as well as to international financial institutions to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of OIC Member States,

in particular through staggered settlement of debts, deferred amortization, reduced and favourable interest rates or swapping debts for financing various development projects.

2. **Takes note** of the initiatives of the G-8 to alleviate the debt burden of the most impoverished countries.

3. **Reaffirms** the urgent need for effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and to help them exit from the rescheduling process.

4. **Expresses** its appreciation for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs) debt relief initiative and **calls** for its accelerated implementation in order to enable more eligible countries to benefit from the initiative.

5. **Urges** that approach in the debt settlement should cover all types of debt, including multilateral debt, and all indebted developing countries, and incorporate measures aimed at a once-and-for all reduction arrangement to reduce their debt burden to a scale that would allow them to resume their economic growth and development.

6. **Expresses** its gratitude to Member States which have already responded favourably to the above request and appeals to Member States which can do so to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to Member States, especially to the least developed, the land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.

7. **Renews** the call made to the international community, especially the developed countries, to offer substantial reduction or cancellation of African debts and lowering of the burden of servicing charges while ensuring that this process is combined with the flow of fresh and considerable finances at soft-terms, to African countries.

8. **Supports** the Cairo Declaration adopted by the First Summit Conference of Africa-Europe, held in Cairo from 3-4 April, 2000, which calls on donors to expedite translating their promises into real commitments to alleviate the debt burden urgently and on deep and wide ranging scale for the group of debt-burdened poor countries.

9. **Appeals also** to Member States which are donors to use their influence with the International Donor Community to take initiatives to overcome the external debt burden of OIC developing and least developed Member States, with regard to implementing this resolution.

10. **Appreciates** the efforts of those Member States which have been implementing stringent macro-economic and external debt management policies to alleviate the adverse effects of the developments in the world economic and financial situation.

11 **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/31-E
ON
NEED FOR ENHANCEMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT CHANGES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 8/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 8/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Reaffirming the relevance of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States and underlining in this respect the dynamic and constructive role played by the President of the Republic of Turkey in chairing the COMCEC's proceedings;

Stressing the importance of collaboration among OIC Member States in implementing the strategy and the Plan of Action;

Realizing the rapid evolution of the world economy towards increased globalization and integration as well as the challenges embodied in the constitution of powerful economic blocs and by the growing liberalization of world trade;

Bearing in mind the existence of the World Trade Organization (WTO) as well as the important impacts of the Uruguay Round Agreements and recognizing in this respect the need for more cooperation and coordination among OIC Member States to ensure increase of their share in the world trade;

Emphasising the importance of ensuring universality of Free Trade and convinced that as a result of the WTO, trade relations between Member States should take into account the framework of the rights and obligations provided for by the new trade rules contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, and the relevant arrangements therein.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Takes note with appreciation** of all the decisions taken by the COMCEC relating to the Strategy and the Plan of Action to strengthen economic and commercial cooperation among the Member States.

2. **Welcomes** with satisfaction, the under-mentioned proposals made by His Majesty late King Hassan II (May Allah bless his soul) to the international community on the occasion of the closing session of the Ministerial Conference of the Uruguay Round in Marrakech:

   (a) The implementation of a "genuine Marshall Plan" in favour of Africa, with a view to reducing the tremendous poverty and lessen the recurring tensions from which its populations are suffering;

   (b) The setting up of a new international negotiations mechanism which will better safeguard the national interests of developing countries in general and particularly those of OIC Member States;

3. **Welcomes** with appreciation the speech by the Hon. Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the 27th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, 24-27 Rabiul Awal 1421H (27-30 June 2000) with the theme Islam and Globalisation in which the Prime Minister of Malaysia underscored the need for Member States to meet the challenges of globalisation. Emphasising the importance of mastering ICT and related technologies for the development of the Muslim Ummah.

4. **Urges** the Member States to deploy concerted efforts to acquire knowledge to face the challenges of globalisation;

5. **Also urges** Member States to develop telecommunication technologies and its linkages and to provide facilities to increase cooperation amongst them.

6. **Further** urges Member States to utilize Islamic Banking facilities and services available in the Member States.

7. **Urges** Member States to consider steps to be taken on a progressive basis with a view to harmonising their economic policies in order to benefit from the new trade rules provided for within the WTO framework and thus encouraging a rapid development of trade between the Member States paying due regards to relevant resolutions of the recent Islamic Summit Conferences and the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers.

8. **Invites** Member States to revitalize their actions in order to increase their share in the world economy notably by a sustained improvement of their international competitiveness of their exports of goods and services by adopting a series of policies meant to improve

their economic infrastructures, services sector, increase the value-added and the quality of their products, diversify their productive base and provide the required conditions likely to attract foreign investments.

9. **Emphasizes** the growing importance of the services sector in the world economy and calls on Member States to increase technical cooperation in this field among themselves.

10. **Calls upon** Member States to further increase their efforts and their budgetary allocations for Research and Development, and also expand their cooperation and coordination in this field, through interalia, joint ventures with a view to supporting their production of goods and services as well as their competitiveness in international markets.

11. **Invites** Member States to endeavour to reinforce sub-regional and regional economic groupings and relaunch the existing economic integration projects with a view to institutionalizing cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, finance and technology among them which could lead to the establishment of an Islamic Common Market or any other suitable form of economic integration among themselves.

12. **Affirms** that in order to achieve the above objectives the private sector in the Member States should play a prominent role through giving impetus to intra-OIC economic relations and in this context invites the Governments of Member States to urge and encourage their businessmen and representatives of the Private Sector to effectively participate in the Private Sector Meetings organized by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In this connection, it notes with appreciation the setting up of a Monitoring Mechanism for the evaluation and implementation of the recommendations of the private sector meetings over a phased out period.

13. **Calls** for expeditious accession of the applying developing countries to the World Trade Organisation, including the OIC Member States emphasizing in this connection that no political consideration should be invoked which may impede the process of accession.

14. **Calls upon** the Islamic Chamber to continue with its efforts in the private sector in adapting to the new concepts in the world economy and challenges of globalization by organizing additional workshops, with the support and contribution of the private sector. In this context, it expresses its appreciation for the generous and kind support offered to the Islamic Chamber by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, His Majesty King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Aviation, and Inspector General, as well as for support extended by governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran and the State of Kuwait and calls on other Member States to extend similar support.

15. **Invites** Member States to strengthen their consultation and coordination mechanisms particularly within the WTO as well as in their relations with regional economic blocs so as to better protect their individual and collective interests.

16. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, OF THE SYRIAN CITIZENS IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN HEIGHTS AND OF THE LEBANESE CITIZENS IN OCCUPIED SOUTH LEBANON AND THE WESTERN BEKKA FORMERLY UNDER OCCUPATION

The Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 9/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 9/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Believing in the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter aimed at strengthening Islamic solidarity among the Member States, and conforming with mass international will that rejects arbitrary Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territory which lead to deterioration of the economic and social conditions of Arab citizens under the yoke of Israeli occupation, on the one hand, and supporting the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region based on the (Land-for-Peace principle) UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425, 1397, 1402 and 1403 as well as the authority of the Madrid Peace Conference, on the other;

Underlining the unfailing efforts exerted by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to promote the economic structure; and to renovate what was destroyed by the Israeli aggression and in view of the escalation of the illegal and unlawful expansionist settlement policies of the Israeli government, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Syrian Golan; and also in view of the serious implications of this escalation on the existing difficult economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan;

Expressing extreme concern over the grave economic impacts, resulting from the expansionist settlement policy of the Israeli government, on the difficult living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and those of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan as well as the Arab people in the occupied Arab territory;

Expressing deep concern over the danger of Israel's continued occupation of the Syrian Golan, part of South Lebanon which are suffering huge economic and material losses;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Hails** the efforts made by the Palestinian National Authority to rebuild Palestinian facilities, infrastructure and properties already destroyed and those being destroyed by the Israeli occupation authorities. It commends the strenuous efforts exerted by the Palestinian Authority to rebuild and strengthen Palestinian national economy.

2. **Invites** all concerned bodies to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people to establish their national economy, consolidation of their national institutions and to enable them to establish their independent State witn Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

3. **Reaffirms** the earlier OIC resolutions in favour of the extension of all forms of economic, technical, material and moral support and assistance to the Palestinian people, preferential treatment for Palestinian export products, granting them exemptions from taxes and tariffs and permitting Palestinian manpower to work in the Member States for specific periods thus helping to improve their material conditions and contributing to their return and their steadfastness on their land.

4. **Urges** Member States to set up people's committees to collect donations to support the Intifada and provide urgent assistance to the Palestinian people in this emergency situation.

5. **Strongly condemns** the closure and blockade imposed on corridors, and on the Palestinian towns and villages, which have resulted in heavy losses and serious damage to the social and economic life of the Palestinian people, and are detrimental to the Palestinian economy; **and calls upon** the international community to force Israel to end the closure and lift the blockade imposed on the Palestinian territories.

6. **Strongly condemns** the acts of demolition and destruction of Palestinian homes, institutions, facilities, lands, the uprooting and burning of fruitful trees and plants, and the bulldozing of the soil, which are perpetrated by the Israeli occupation army and settlers

and which have resulted in severe losses for the Palestinian economy and building an expansionist infrastructure by establishing more settlements **and calls upon** the international community to force Israel to put an end to these criminal acts and to pay reparations for these damages **also strongly** condemns Israel for its erection of the Apartheid Wall which eats up into the Palestinian lands, isolates scores of villages, and prevents their population from exploiting their land in addition to the crimes perpetrated by the settlers, the fences built by them, and their preventing Palestinians from harvesting their crops.

7. **Calls upon** the international community to intervene to force Israel to release the Palestinian funds being held up by it and estimated at millions of dollars accruing from taxes and tariffs due to the Palestinian authority and levied by the Israeli government.

8. **Calls** the Member States to continue to make generous contributions to the Al-Quds Fund, the Al-Quds Waqf and Beit al-Mal of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, particularly in the light of the current conditions in the occupied territories where the infrastructure is being systematically destroyed.

9. **Calls** for the necessity of implementing the draft resolutions of the UN General Assembly on the economic assistance extended to the Palestinian people as well as the draft resolutions of other international organizations and relevant specialized agencies. **It also calls** for united efforts on the part of the Member States in their support of the Palestinian cause during the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly.

10. **Condemns** Israel's continued defiance of the will of the international community and her building of the separation wall on Palestinian land, and stresses the serious impact of the wall on the economic situation in Palestine as well as its adverse effects on the daily lives and increasing the suffering of the Palestinian people.

11. **Urges** the private sector and investors of the Member States to undertake the execution of the economic, industrial, agricultural and housing programmes in the territories of the Palestinian National Authority with a view to supporting and strengthening the Palestinian national economy.

12. **Appreciating** the efforts of IDB and ICCI and calls upon the Member States and OIC affiliated and subsidiary organs to provide means of technical and financial assistance to the Federation of Palestinian Chambers and the local Palestinian Chambers to carry out their activities effectively and efficiently. Furthermore, they should stand by them and reaffirm their support in facing the aggressive atrocities perpetrated on the Palestinian people.

13. **Condemns** Israel for its continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and parts of South Lebanon, including the Shebaa farms and the arbitrary Israeli practices which have led to

the degradation of the social and economic situation of the Syrian and Lebanese populations suffering under the yoke of Israeli occupation.

14. **Urges** the OIC Member States to carry all necessary actions at the international level to exert pressure on Israel to desist from resorting to imposition of the brutal blockades on the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif which result in extremely painful economic effects on the Palestinian people and raise the level of unemployment among the Palestinians. It also hampers international efforts aimed at realizing development in the occupied Palestinian territory and the territory of the Palestinian National Authority.

15. **Calls on** Member States and the international community to compel Israel to pay the Government of Lebanon reparations for the plight of the Lebanese citizens in Southern Lebanon and the Western Beqaa who suffered Israeli aggressions throughout the occupation that has induced substantial losses and social complications and caused a quasi-permanent paralysis of economic activities in the region.

16. **Calls on** Member States and the international community to extend necessary assistance to the Lebanese citizens in South Lebanon and the Western Beqaa who have been constantly and every day the targets of Israeli aggression throughout the occupation period, thus entailing huge material losses and social hardships leading to a quasi permanent paralysis of the economic activities in the area.

17. **Calls also on** the Member States to coordinate their efforts regarding the implementation of the resolutions on the subject.

18. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/31-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES STRICKEN BY DROUGHT, DESERTIFICATION AND NATURAL CALAMITIES

The Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 10/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 10/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern the grave situation caused by natural disasters, drought and desertification, and the ensuing damaging effects on economic and social conditions especially in the sectors of agriculture and food, economic and social infrastructures as well as public services and utilities;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by some Member States and the Islamic Development Bank which have extended and continue to extend technical and financial assistance as well as food aid to Member States stricken by drought and natural disasters;

Fully aware that afflicted Member States, belonging as they do to the category of the Least-Developed, cannot by themselves, bear the growing burden of anti-drought and anti-desertification campaign and the implementation of major related projects;

Recognising the importance of disaster preparedness and management for mitigating the impacts of natural calamities and the need for continued efforts by the international community to enhance awareness in this regard.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Expresses its gratitude** to Member States, which have provided and are still providing assistance to the Member States affected by drought and natural disasters.

2. **Expresses also its gratitude** to IDB for its continuing assistance to Member States afflicted by drought, desertification and other natural disasters and encourages the Bank to continue its assistance in this domain.

3. **Appeals** to the International Community also to extend assistance to Member States struck by drought, desertification and natural disasters.

4. **Calls upon** the Member States and OIC Institutions to extend urgent and continual assistance to OIC countries of Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which has been threatening them for too long.

5. **Notes with appreciation** the meeting of Donor Countries and national and Regional Financial Institutions convened by Kuwait at IDB Headquarters in June, 1998 to consider the appropriate mechanisms for financing the new programmes.

6. **Welcomes** the contribution of 30 million US$ made by the State of Kuwait in the form of soft development loans as well as the 20 million US$ contributed by the Islamic Development Bank for the new programme.

7. **Also notes with appreciation** that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has embarked upon the implementation of its new programme for the control of drought and desertification in the African Sahel countries.

8. **Expresses** its gratitude to the efforts of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its interventions in some Islamic countries afflicted by natural disasters and calls on the Member States to support it and extend assistance to it in fulfilling its mission.

9. **Underlines** the need to put in place a mechanism in the form of a network of nodal agencies and resource persons for sharing of information and views on the issues relating to disaster preparedness and management.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LOSSES FOR GREAT JAMAHIRIYA AS A RESULT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 748/92 AND 883/93

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 11/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 11/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken note of the negative effects on the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of the sanctions imposed on it by the Security Council under Resolutions No. 748/1992 and 883/1993, in the economic, cultural and social fields;

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the various fora of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States and the Non-Aligned Movement;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General;

1 **Reaffirms** the need to give the necessary attention to this issue to compensate the Arab Libyan people for the losses sustained as a result of the sanctions imposed on them by virtue of UN Security Council Resolutions 748(92) and 883(93).

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 12/31-E
ON
SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF SOUTH EAST ASIAN AND OTHER OIC MEMBER STATES TO COUNTERACT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 2004),

Recalling Resolution 12/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 12/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islami Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern that the stability of the financial system in some OIC Member States in South East Asia region and other Member States continues to remain under pressure arising from, amongst others, revolution in information and communication technology facilitating uncontrollable management of large amounts of capital for speculative purposes, as well as the prevailing directions of current international transactions;

1. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue to support the efforts of the OIC Member States of South East Asia to counteract the implications of the economic and financial crisis.

2. **Requests** the OIC subsidiary organs to study of the economic and financial crisis and their impact on the Islamic States.

3. **Calls on** the Islamic Development Bank as well as international financial institutions to continue their assistance to further strengthen social safety nets to protect the poor and vulnerable.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 13/10-E (IS) adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 13/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Further recalling Israeli aggressions against Lebanon, and the resulting losses of life and property, and their consequences on political and economic conditions in Lebanon;

Appreciating the efforts exerted by the Government of Lebanon to achieve stability and security, establish its authority, reconstruct its country, and provide for the needs of citizens in the territories previously under Israeli occupation;

Taking into account the difficulties faced by the Lebanese citizens in the territories previously occupied by Israel, and in the neighbouring areas;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Expresses** its appreciation for the donation made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, announced at the Donors Conference (Paris 2) of the amount of US$700 million in the form of securities and of purchasing government bonds.

2. **Expresses also** its appreciation of the assistance extended by some Member States and by the relevant organs of the OIC.

3. **Condemns** Israeli acts of aggression against public facilities and infrastructures in Lebanon, aimed at obstructing the efforts of reconstruction made by the government of Lebanon. It also condemns the continued Israeli unwillingness to withdraw from parts of the territory of Lebanon, including the Shab'a farms, to the line of the internationally recognized borders of Lebanon.

4. **Condemns** Israel for refusing to hand over comprehensive maps of landmines, which it planted in various regions of the south and the western Bekaa and which constitute a grave danger to the lives of civilians. **Condemns also** Israel for detaining Lebanese detainees in its prisons.

5. **Reaffirms** its previous Resolutions on the need to provide various forms of financial, material, and humanitarian aid to Lebanon to meet its economic, technical and training needs, and **reiterates** the appeal to OIC Member States and to international and regional bodies to contribute urgently and effectively to the reconstruction of what was destroyed by Israeli occupation, and to respond positively to the call for a conference of donor states for that purpose.

6. **Calls** on Member States to grant exceptional facilities to Lebanese products to permit them unhindered access to their markets in support of the Lebanese economy, the mainstay of Lebanese steadfastness and resistance to Israeli aggression.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 14/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 14/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Guided by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which lay stress on the common objectives and destiny of the peoples of the Ummah, as well as their commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC expressing full solidarity of the Member States with the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Taking also into account the resolutions adopted by the Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, held in Istanbul and Jeddah and followed by the Special Ministerial Meeting held in Islamabad as well as the 21st and 22nd Meetings of the OIC Foreign Ministers which were held in Karachi and Casablanca respectively and the Seventh OIC Summit, and the Work Programme of the 23rd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry and the 24th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Jakarta on supporting the Dayton Agreement;

Stressing the principles contained in the Final Document adopted by the enlarged meeting of the OIC Contact Group held in Sarajevo in April 1996;

Welcoming the resolutions of the enlarged meeting of the Ministers of the OIC Contact Group which was held in Geneva in July 1996, especially those relating to the establishment of the Revolving Fund to be allocated to medium and small projects in Bosnia;

Also expressing its appreciation for the work of the Assistance Mobilisation Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina, formed during the OIC Kuala Lumpur meeting, which met in Sarajevo on 27-28 April 2001, towards providing humanitarian and economic assistance for concrete rehabilitation and reconstruction projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Expresses deep appreciation** for the assistance extended by Member States and OIC relevant bodies, and noted with appreciation the special programme of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry to assist the private sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. **Commends** the contributions of the OIC Member States at the Donors Conference for the Rehabilitation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was held in Brussels in April 1996.

3. **Appeals** to Member States, Islamic institutions and other donors to make generous donations to enable full implementation of the IDB programme aimed at providing humanitarian assistance to the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the

reconstruction of the country and to work for the preservation of the Islamic identity of the Muslim inhabitants of Bosnia.

4. **Expresses its appreciation** for the assistance provided by the OIC Member States and for the commendable efforts of those Islamic and other international humanitarian bodies in providing relief and assistance to the victims of the aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. **Urges upon** the International Community to take efficient measures to ensure the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina and humanitarian assistance relating to return of the refugees and displaced people to their homes by means of OIC Trust Fund for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

6. **Demands** that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina be safeguarded and protected along its internationally recognized borders.

7. **Requests** the OIC Member States, to seek directing the biggest part of international assistance for reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the regions inhabited by Muslims of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 15/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 15/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 15/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Deeply concerned at the critical situation in Somalia and expressing the desire for early restoration of peace and order in that sister Member country;

Concerned at the adverse economic effects of the serious drought being experienced by the Republic of Somalia;

Having also taken note of the report of the Secretary-General,

1. **Expresses appreciation** for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant institutions.

2. **Urges** OIC Member States, to provide material and other assistance on an emergency basis to Somalia to end the human suffering in this Muslim country.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 16/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA IN THE FACE OF THE REFUGEE INFLUX FROM LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling earlier resolutions of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference, 28th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and 18th Session of the COMCEC;

Recalling Resolution No. 16/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Considering the role played by the Republic of Guinea, within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to establish peace and ensure stability in some Member States, victims of armed conflicts;

Considering that the presence of a huge number of refugees from Liberia and Sierra Leone constitutes an unbearable burden for the economy of the Republic of Guinea;

Considering the need for the Republic of Guinea to reconstruct its country and ensure the survival of the refugees and their return to their respective countries;

1. **Calls** urgently the international community and Member States to provide substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Guinea so as to enable it to face this situation created by the aggressions which victimized her and by the presence on its territory of hundred of thousands of refugees most of whom are Muslims.

2. **Appeals** to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its assistance to the Republic of Guinea so that it may create the social infrastructures needed for the displaced population and the refugees, and overcome the deterioration of the environment brought about by this massive presence of refugees.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

The Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 17/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 17/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling further Resolutions 57/19-P and 9/20-E adopted by the Nineteenth and Twentieth Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, respectively;

Recalling the results of the Parliamentary and Presidential elections in Sierra Leone;

Expressing appreciation for the sustained concern and interest of the leaders of the West African Sub-region, for peace to prevail in the Republic of Sierra Leone;

Expressing appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Arab Republic of Egypt and other friendly nations for the donations of food items, clothing and medicines for the refugees and displaced inhabitants of Sierra Leone;

Expressing appreciation for the generous financial contributions made by State of Qatar, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Sudan.

Considering that the armed conflict in Sierra Leone caused considerable damage to life and property and for several years disrupted all economic activities particularly in the Mining, Agriculture and Industrial sectors, resulting in substantial loss of revenue to Government and the private sector;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Appeals** to the Member States and the international community to urgently extend substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Sierra Leone so as to enable its people to undertake the much needed process of rehabilitation, reconstruction and resettlement of returnees and displaced inhabitants of about 1.5 million.

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to use his good offices to accelerate the process of approval for projects already identified for Sierra Leone.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 18/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also Resolution No. 18/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses deep appreciation** for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies.

2. **Expresses** its strong support to the people of Albania beset by major economic difficulties at the present phase of their transition towards a market economy.

3. **Urges** OIC Member States, Islamic Institutions and International Organizations to grant generous economic assistance to Albania so that the Government of Albania may successfully implement its development programme.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 19/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 21425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 19/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 19/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling further the text of the Final Communiqué of the 9th extra-ordinary session of the ICFM held in Doha on 10 October, 2001;

Taking into account that Afghanistan is currently faced by serious constraints due to more than two decades of war;

Taking also into account the participation of the Member States and the Secretary-General of the OIC in the Donors Conference held in on 21-22 January 2002 in Tokyo;

Noting the extra-ordinary grave situation prevailing at present in Afghanistan due to the on-going military campaign;

Noting that about 70% to 80% of its economic and social infrastructures has been destroyed during the two decades of war;

Also noting with concern the migration of Afghans into neighbouring countries because of existing humanitarian conditions and the onerous burden placed on these resources strained neighbouring countries;

Aware that over 1.5 million Afghans were killed, about 1.5 million disabled and more than 5 million displaced and took refuge in the neighbouring countries;

Recognizing that about 10 million mines were planted in different parts of the country:

Noting also that the interim Government of Afghanistan needs critical international support and assistance in its efforts at stabilization and reconstruction of the war-ravaged country.

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Calls for** a major international effort to provide humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people.

2. **Expresses deep appreciation** for the assistance extended by some Member States and relevant OIC bodies.

3. **Urges** Member States, Islamic institutions and international organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and to the internally displaced Afghans as well as to the Afghan refugees in neighbouring countries, particularly the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

4. **Expresses** its satisfaction on the conclusion reached at the Donors Conference in Tokyo to extend assistance to Afghanistan, and **appeals** to countries to begin to implement the commitments made at the Tokyo Conference to assist Afghanistan to rebuild her infrastructure.

5. **Commends** the assistance extended by Islamic countries in implementation of the declaration of commitments made during the Tokyo Conference held on 21 to 22 January 2002, in particular the contribution made to Afghanistan by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of an amount of US$221 million in addition to $52 million in humanitarian aid, and appreciates the donation of $30 million for the construction of the Kabul-Herat road.

6. **Appreciates** also the contributions made by the Islamic Republic of Iran, State of Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Qatar, United Arab Emirates and other Member States for the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

7. Welcomes the holding of the International Conference on 'Afghanistan and Regional Economic Cooperation: Central Asia, Iran and Pakistan' in Bishkek on 10-12 May, 2004 with a view to finding ways and means of reinforcing economic cooperation between the states of the region and Afghanistan.

8. **Requests** the donor countries, international institutions and the OIC Member States participating in the international effort for reconstruction and development of Afghanistan to take advantage of the facilities and services available in the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan, especially Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 20/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 20/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Aware that the Government of the Republic of Uganda is currently experiencing serious strain on its meagre resources as a result of the presence of refugees from neighbouring countries who flock into the country;

Recognizing that Uganda is offering asylum to large numbers of refugees whose number will increase if the state of unrest continues to escalate;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Invites** Member States, Islamic institutions and international organizations to grant urgent financial and economic assistance to Uganda so that it may cope with the refugee problems and other related consequences. **Also stresses** the need to enable Uganda to

implement its relevant economic and cultural programmes in an urgent and effective manner.

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 21/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 21/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 21/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this very critical time of the country's history;

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict;

Deploring the Armenian hostilities in the Nogorno-Karabakh district of Azerbaijan followed by the occupation of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory which forced almost one million Azerbaijani people to flee their homes in the face of the brutal attacks and gross violations of human rights by this aggression;

Recognizing the need to reinforce concrete solidarity of the OIC Member States with the Government and people of Azerbaijan;

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Appeals** to the Member States and Islamic institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the much needed economic and humanitarian assistance with a view to alleviating the suffering of the Azerbaijani people.

2. **Calls upon** the international organizations to continue to grant humanitarian, financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 22/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 22/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 22/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its understanding of the situation which has arisen in the Kyrgyz Republic after attainment of independence and sovereignty;

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties of the transitional period to the free market economy;

Expressing its sympathy with the brotherly people of Kyrgyz Republic regarding the consequences of the natural disasters which struck this country, thus affecting the socio-economic situation;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses deep appreciation** for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies.

2. **Appeals** to all Muslims and Islamic financial institutions to be generous and to contribute to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties experienced by Kyrgyz Republic either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organizations so as to enable Kyrgyz Republic to fulfil its economic programme.

3. **Appeals also** to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Kyrgyz Republic.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/31-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 23/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also all previous resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Conference on assistance to the Kashmiri people, particularly Resolution 23/30-E of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Kashmiris by some Member States and relevant OIC bodies;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Appeals** to Member States and Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, Islamic Development Bank and charitable institutions, to grant generous humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

2 **Also appeals** to Member States and the Islamic Institutions to grant scholarships to the Kashmiri students in different universities and institutions in the OIC countries.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 24/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 24/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 24/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties faced by the Republic of Yemen and the loses incurred in the tourism sector in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001 in New York.

Appreciating the efforts made and success achieved by the Government of the Republic of Yemen in implementing the Economic Reforms Policy and the Fight-Against-Poverty Programme;

Taking into consideration the heavy burdens borne by the Yemeni Government to provide shelter for groups of refugees from neighbouring African countries;

Recalling that Yemen is one of the least developed countries;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses** its appreciation for the efforts of Yemeni Government in overcoming its economic difficulties and the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Administrative and Financial Reform and the Fight-Against-Poverty Programme.

2. **Renews its call** to the Member States and all regional and international organizations to extend all kinds of economic assistance to the Yemeni Government to support its efforts aimed at implementing the Comprehensive Programme of Administrative and Financial

Reform and the Fight-Against-Poverty Programme with a view to alleviating the heavy burden of sheltering large number of refugees from neighbouring African countries.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 25/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF PALESTINE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 25/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also Resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference as well as resolutions of the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th. and 30th Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with great interest the efforts by the Palestinian National Authority in Gaza Strip and West Bank to improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people and to reconstruct the Palestinian national economy;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the issue;

1. **Expresses** its deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Palestinian people and Authority by some Member States and relevant bodies of the OIC; and **calls upon** all Member States to continue their support and assistance for their Palestinian brothers to enable them face the difficult conditions they are passing through due to continuous Israeli aggression.

2. **Commends** the substantial assistance and contributions extended by the people and Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the generosity of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for his support of 1,000 families of the martyrs of the Palestinian intifada and **notes** that Saudi Arabia has paid up all its installments until March, 2004 to support the Palestinian Authority in conformity with the Arab League resolution addressed to all Arab countries in support of the Palestinian Authority

3. **Commends the** efforts of the Palestinian National Authority in the Palestinian territories to reconstruct what has been destroyed during three consecutive years of Israeli aggression, and **calls upon** the international community, and monetary and economic institutions to come to the aid of the Palestinian people and assist them to rebuild the destruction caused by the Israeli occupation.

4. **Reaffirms** the previous resolutions aimed at extending all forms of moral, material, technical and economic support to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian National Authority; and at giving preference to importation of Palestinian products and exempting them from taxes and custom duties.

5. **Condemns** Israel's continued defiance of the will of the international community and her building of the separation wall on Palestinian land, and stresses the serious impact of the wall on the economic situation in Palestine as well as the daily sufferings endured by the Palestinian people.

6. **Urges** business men and investors in Member States to contribute in executing economic, industrial, agricultural and housing projects in the Palestinian territories in order to build the Palestinian national economy and to support the Palestinian National and institutions in the implementation of the coming phases of their development programmes I the economic, social and health fields.

7. **Urges** Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in view of the obstacles placed by Israel, to facilitate employment opportunities for the Palestinian labour force, in order to enhance the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people and to eradicate unemployment.

8. **Also urges** the Member States to conclude bilateral agreements with the Palestinian National Authority in the economic, commercial and social fields in order to improve the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and **expresses** its deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Palestinian people by some Member States to build their national economy in the self rule regions of West Bank and Gaza Strip.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 26/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution N° 26/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 26/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its deep concern over the unprecedented floods in Southern Africa and Mozambique, in particular, that caused loss of lives, extensive destruction infrastructures, deterioration of socio-economic situation and dislodgement and scattering of landmines;

Taking note of the Donors' Conference held in Maputo, Mozambique from 12 to 13 July, 2001, with the aim of mobilizing financial resources for the reconstruction of socio-economic infrastructures and assistance to the people affected by the floods occurred earlier in 2001 in Mozambique.

Noting with satisfaction that the process of pacification and democratisation that is in place in Mozambique creates a climate of peace and harmony conducive to creating a solid platform of genuine reconciliation among Mozambicans, a "sine qua non" condition for the implementation of economic and social programmes;

Appreciating the efforts being made by the Government of Mozambique in the implementation of the national reconstruction programme;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses** thanks to the member states which have extended assistance to Mozambique to alleviate the suffering of its people resulting from the floods that affected the country, and in particular the GCC States.

2. **Stresses** the need to enable Mozambique to implement its economic and social development programmes in an effective manner.

3. **Appeals** to Islamic Development Bank, all Islamic Institutions and the international community in general to render their material and financial support

in order to ensure the reconstruction of socio-economic infrastructures and rehabilitation of the affected people in Mozambique.

4. **Emphasizes** the need to promote and encourage the role of the private sector particularly within the context of development of Small and Medium Enterprises.

5. **Urges** the developed countries to write off the external debt of Mozambique in the light of its current critical socio-economic situation.

6. **Urges** the international community to increase its assistance to mine-clearance Programmes, taking into account the far reaching effects of the floods.

7. **Urges** the international community to render assistance for setting up national, sub-regional, regional and international disaster prevention, preparedness and management mechanisms, including early warning systems.

8. **Commends** the efforts of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries to address the devastating effects of the floods and thanks international community for the support, solidarity and humanitarian assistance rendered to Mozambique.

9. **Calls upon** all Member States to continue their support to the implementation of the programme of reconstruction of Mozambique.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 27/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, From 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 27/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 27/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into account the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter as well as members' commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Deeply concerned at critical situation which Tajikistan has faced in the light of 5 years of bloody civil war, resulted in the death, injury and displacement of thousands of people as well as destruction of its economic and social infrastructures;

Noting the return of about 200 thousands Tajik refugees to their homeland which necessitates a great financial and technical support;

Recalling the report of the World Food Programme which estimates that 25 per cent of Tajikistan's population is in dire need of food aid;

Noting with concern the marked spread of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and diarrhoea, victims of which are especially infants, children and women;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses deep appreciation** to the assistance extended by some Member States.

2. **Appeals** to all members and Islamic financial institutions to make their generous contributions to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties experienced by Tajikistan either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organisations so as to enable Tajikistan to fulfil its rehabilitation programmes.

3. **Urges** the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Tajikistan.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 28/31-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 29/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 28/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Affirming the principles and objectives which underscore cooperation and solidarity of the Ummah with its members;

Recalling that the Republic of Djibouti is sheltering on its territory an important number of refugees and displaced persons representing more than one third of its population, and weighing heavily on its health and educational infrastructures;

Deeply concerned at the recent floods causing an important loss in livestock, as well as serious damage to roads and health establishments thus causing cholera and malaria epidemics;

Aware that the Republic of Djibouti has resolved, through dialogue, a three-year internal conflict which had seriously affected its economy;

Conscious that peace should be strengthened through the preservation of social gains;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Makes** an urgent appeal to the Member States to provide substantial financial and material support to the Republic of Djibouti for the consolidation of peace, the reconstruction of the country and the implementation of its structural adjustment programme.

2. **Calls on** the Member States to assist the Republic of Djibouti in its struggle against the disastrous consequences of the recent flood at both the social and economic levels.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 29/31-E
ON
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CHECHEN PEOPLE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 30/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 29/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Guided by the noble principles of Islam and the objectives of the OIC Charter which emphasize on the common objectives and destiny of the people of the Ummah as well as their commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Recalling the concerns and the support expressed at the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) in December 1994 regarding the situation in Chechniya which has deteriorated again in 1999;

Referring to the call to all Member States made by His Excellency S. Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chairman of the Eighth Islamic Summit, for a rapid humanitarian assistance to the people and refugees of Chechnya and its readiness to assist in coordination of this effort;

Expressing deep concern over the plight of Muslim refugees and displaced people of Chechniya and humanitarian and material losses resulting from the Chechniya Crisis in 1999;

Welcoming voluntary humanitarian assistances provided by some Member States, as well as some affiliated institutions of the OIC for people and refugees of Chechniya;

1. **Calls on** all Member States, Islamic Philanthropist Institutions and appeals to the international community to urgently provide generous humanitarian assistance to the people and refugees of Chechniya.

2. **Recommends** to all Member States to encourage their relevant institutions, NGO's and individuals to provide humanitarian assistance for people and refugees of Chechniya.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 30/31-E
ON
ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC)

The Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 31/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Also recalling Resolution No. 2/6-E(IS) of the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 9-11 December 1991 on the activities of the COMCEC mandating it to formulate new Strategies for the enhancement of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among OIC Member States and to take appropriate action for its implementation;

Recalling resolution No. 8/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994) which endorsed the Strategy and the Plan of Action;

Recalling Resolution No. 30/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling the resolutions of the Ministerial level meetings in different areas of cooperation held under the auspices of the COMCEC;

Also recalling the resolutions adopted at the nineteen previous sessions of the COMCEC initiating effective action in economic cooperation among the Member States, particularly in the area of trade;

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the General Secretariat, subsidiary organs, affiliated and specialized institutions of OIC, working in the field of economy and trade, to implement the resolutions of the COMCEC;

Noting with appreciation that the Strategy for Economic and Commercial Cooperation adopted by the COMCEC allows for cooperation among sub-groups of Member States and is based on the principles giving emphasis to private sector, economic liberaliasation, integration with the world economy, sanctity of the economic, political, legal and constitutional structures of the Member States and their international obligations;

Also noting with appreciation that the revised Plan of Action is a general and flexible policy document open for improvement during its implementation in accordance with the provisions stipulated in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation;

Recognizing the importance for the Member States of the new economic configurations emerging at the global level particularly from the creation of regional economic groupings, signing of the Uruguay Round Agreements, and creation of the World Trade Organization and its subsequent Agreements;

Appreciating that, starting with its Eleventh Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy of the Member States could exchange views on current world economic issues and that the topics "Implications of the Uruguay Round of trade Negotiations and the Establishment of the World Trade Organization on the external trade of OIC Member States", "Privatization Experiences in Member States", "Implications of Regional Economic Groupings particularly the European Union on the Economies of Member States", "Intra-OIC Trade and Investment and Economic Stabilisation and Structural Reforms in Member States", "Human Resource Development for Sustained Economic Growth and Poverty Alleviation in the Member States of the OIC", "Strengthening of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Facing Globalisation and Liberalisation" "The Effects of Non-tariff Barriers on Foreign Trade of the Member Countries", "Private Sector Investment in the Member States and the Role of IDB" and "Impact of Electronic Commerce and Use of Information Technology in the Promotion and Development of intra-OIC trade" were the themes for the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th 15th, 16th , 17th 18th, and 19th Sessions of the COMCEC, respectively;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Stresses** the need for COMCEC to continue to pay utmost attention to coordination and cooperation among Member States with regard to the membership of new countries that wish to join the World Trade Organization, and to the clarification of positions on the new issues and agreements under consideration within the framework of the WTO with a view to strengthening the negotiating position of these countries at the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations especially with respect to the built-in agenda and to the new ones.

2. **Expresses satisfaction** that the Islamic Development Bank has successfully carried out the mandate given by COMCEC to organise Coordination Meetings for Member States to consult among themselves and better prepare for the WTO Ministerial Meetings held in Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, in Geneva from 18-20 May 1998, in Seattle from 30 November to 03 December 1999, in Doha from 9-14 November, 2001 and in Cancun, Mexico from 10-14 September 2003 respectively with a view to assisting them to adopt a common stand regarding the issues raised in the Agenda of those meetings.

3. **Thanks** the ICDT and IDB for organising an expert group meeting before the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference for the benefit of the Member States.

4. **Thanks** the IDB for organizing a brainstorming meeting for the Geneva-based Permanent Missions of the Member States on 1-2 May 2003 and a Consultative Meeting on 27-28 July, 2003 for the capital-based officials in preparation for the 5th WTO Ministerial Conference, as well as for holding a post-Cancun dialogue for the Geneva-based Permanent Missions of the OIC countries on 2-3 December 2003 in Geneva.

5. **Appreciates** also the technical assistance programmes of the Islamic Development Bank to assist Member States which are either members of the WTO or in the process of accession to the Organization, and the role of the Bank in organizing for consultative meetings of Member States and the Seminars and Workshops it organizes for this purpose.

6. **Appreciates** the efforts of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry in organizing Private Sector Meetings as directed by the COMCEC for an effective implementation of the Plan of Action.

7. **Underlines** the crucial importance of the active participation of the private sector in economic cooperation among the Member States and appreciating the cooperation and productive support of IDB for all the events of ICCI, calls upon ICCI to pursue its efforts to further involve the private sector in the economic cooperation among Member States.

8. **Appreciates** the Islamic Republic of Iran for holding the 10th Private Sector Meeting on 4-6 October 2003 in Tehran in collaboration with ICCI and the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines.

9. **Notes with appreciation** that the Regulations for the Islamic Trade Fair which was prepared by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, had been adopted by the Eighteenth Session of the COMCEC.

10. **Expresses** its gratitude to the United Arab Emirates for hosting the Islamic Trade Fair in Sharjah from 21 to 26 December 2002 on the theme: Free Trade and Sustainable development, and **expresses** its appreciation for the commendable efforts made by the

Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sharjah for the success of the fair.

11. **Welcomes** the offer of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce to host the 11th Private Sector Meeting on February 5-7, 2005.

12. **Also welcomes** the agreement between the Republic of Guinea and the Kingdom of Bahrain, under which the Kingdom of Bahrain is to host the 10th Islamic Trade Fair on 5-9 February, 2005 in place of the Republic of Guinea, which earlier offered to host it and calls upon the Member States to actively participate in the event.

13. **Further welcomes** the offers of the Republic of Senegal, the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of Guinea to host the 11th, the 12th and the 13th Trade Fairs of Islamic Countries in 2006, 2008 and 2010, respectively.

14. **Supports** the Secretary-General's initiative on the OIC's participation at "Expo 2005) in Aichy (Japan), and calls on the Member States and OIC institutions concerned to support this initiative and coordinate in the matter with the Director General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, who is designated as the commissioner in charge of preparing for the participation of OIC at the World Exhibition in order to enable it to take part effectively in this significant cultural and economic event.

15. **Emphasizes** the need to urgently implement the revised Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States the OIC, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the Strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

16. **Stresses** the importance of the recommendations of the Experts Group Meeting for Accelerating the Implementation of the Plan of Action and **requests** that measures be taken by the Member States to accelerate the implementation of these recommendations through appropriate mechanisms to be proposed by the COMCEC Coordination Office in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat and the OIC institutions.

17. **Takes notes** of approval by the COMCEC of the Draft Project Profile Form prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office in pursuance of the relevant recommendation of the Experts Group Meeting on Accelerating the Implementation of the OIC Plan of Action and **requests** the Member States to make use of it whenever they wish to submit project proposals within the framework of the OIC Plan of Action.

18. **Takes note** of the adoption by the 19th Session of COMCEC the Supplementary Mechanism developed by the COMCEC Coordination Office, in cooperation with the OIC General Secretariat, SESRTCIC, ICDT, IUT, IDB, ICCI and OISA in pursuance of the relevant recommendation of the Experts Group Meeting held on 6-7 May 2001 in Istanbul.

19. **Takes note** of the approval by the 19th Session of COMCEC of the Sessional Committee serving as the appropriate body under the supervision of which the concerned OIC institutions are to function and coordinate their activities in fulfilling their mandate regarding the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action; and of the adoption by the same session of COMCEC the necessary modifications in the Article 11 of the Statute and Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC.

20. **Takes note also** of the adoption by the 19th Session of COMCEC of the Rules of Procedure of the Sessional Committee to regulate and coordinate the activities of the OIC institutions in the field of commercial and economic cooperation to implement the OIC Plan of Action as proposed in the Supplementary Mechanism, and **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to take necessary measures for submission of the Rules of Procedure to the 11th Islamic Summit Conference for its approval.

21. **Requests** the Member States to take appropriate measures including necessary cooperation, coordination and consultation among themselves to make efforts with the required possible economic and technical support from the developed countries, international community and relevant international organizations and financial institutions to increase their food production capacity with a view to arriving at national food security as well as enhancing the purchasing power of their people.

22. **Invites** the Member States to host sectoral Expert Group Meetings in priority areas of cooperation in the Plan of Action.

23. **Welcomes** the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host two sectoral Expert Group Meetings in the area of "Transport and Communications" and "Food, Agriculture and Rural Development" of the Plan of Action.

24. **Thanks** the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting the Third Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism on 6-9 October 2002 in Riyadh.

25. **Invites** IDB to continue its active support in ensuring effective and urgent implementation of the revised Plan of Action.

26. **Thanks** the Republic of Senegal for the hosting of Seminar-Workshop in cooperation with IDB to familiarize the African member states with the Plan of Action, and recommends that similar seminars be held in other regions and sub-regions of OIC.

27. **Recognizes** that the Exchange of Views organized during the annual sessions of the COMCEC would be utilized to coordinate the positions of the Member States vis-a-vis major world economic issues.

28. **Welcomes** the offer of the government of the Republic of Sudan to host sectoral Expert Group Meeting on “Energy and Mining” and “Human Resources Development.”

29. **Thanks** the Republic of Gabon for having organised a sub-regional seminar for the OIC States of Central and East Africa on "the role of IDB in the promotion of the private sector" in cooperation with IDB and the other concerned institutions of the OIC.

30. **Thanks** Burkina Faso for hosting a regional workshop on Industry for East, West and Central African OIC member states in cooperation with the IDB and other related OIC institutions.

31. **Welcomes** the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host sectoral Expert Group Meeting in the area of Health and Sanitary Issues to be followed by a Ministerial meeting on the same topic.

32. **Thanks** the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Experts Group of Meeting on Accelerating the implementation of the Plan of Action, which was held on 6-7 May, 2001 in Istanbul.

33. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic Tunisia to host an experts group meeting on "Promoting the Activities of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises" in the field of production and exports.

34. **Calls upon** the concerned Member States to actively take part in the first round of trade negotiation under the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among the Member States of OIC, and also invites the Member States, that have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Framework Agreement.

35. **Welcomes** the designation by the 19th Session of COMCEC of the COMCEC Coordination Office and the ICDT to serve as the Secretariat for the Trade Negotiating Committee under the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States.

36. **Takes note** with appreciation of the adoption by the 19th Session of the COMCEC the Ministerial Declaration for the launching of the First Round of Trade Negotiations under the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States as well as the rules of procedure of the Trade Negotiating Committee.

37. **Thanks** the Republic of Turkey for hosting the first meeting of the first round of negotiations on 6-9 April 2004 in Antalya held by Trade Negotiating Committee under the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States and notes that the second meeting will be held on 7-10 September, 2004 in Antalya and **urges** the participating countries to communicate their views on the Negotiating Strategy for TPSOIC as adopted at the first meeting at their earliest convenience before September, 2004.

38. **Thanks** the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting of an Experts Group Meeting to prepare the Launching of the First Round of Trade Negotiations within the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States held in Casablanca on 24-26 June, 2003 and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the COMCEC Coordination Office for organizing it and preparing the necessary documents in this regard.

39. **Welcomes** the offer of Indonesia to host an International Workshop on Employment and Manpower Exchange.

40. **Welcomes** the offer of Arab Republic of Egypt to host an OIC Ministerial Meeting to promote intra-OIC trade.

41. **Welcomes** the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host a workshop on 14-16 September 2004 in Islamabad on Trade and Transport Facilitation among the OIC Member States, in collaboration with the ICDT, ICCI, OISA and other relevant OIC institutions as a preparation for the exchange of views session to be held during the 20th session of COMCEC.

42. **Thanks** the Republic of Tunisia for hosting the workshop on "Impact of Electronic Commerce and the Use of Information Technology in the Promotion and Development of Intra-OIC Trade" on 10-12 June, 2003 in Tunis in collaboration with SESRTCIC, ICDT, IUT and other relevant OIC institutions as a preparation for the exchange of views session to be held during the 19th session of COMCEC.

43. **Notes with appreciation** that the 20th Session of the COMCEC will be held from 23-26 November, 2004 in Istanbul under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Turkey and calls upon the Member States to effectively and actively participate in the meeting.

44. **Appreciates** the initiative of the Republic of Turkey, in its capacity as the Chairman of COMCEC and Islamic Development Bank of holding a high-level Ministerial meeting for focusing on promotion of intra-OIC trade and investment, styled as the OIC Istanbul Economic Conference, to be held concurrently with the 20th Session of COMCEC on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of COMCEC and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in the Conference and also to encourage and ensure a wider private sector participation in the Conference and **requests** the OIC General Secretariat and the concerned OIC institutions to provide all necessary support in this respect.

45. **Takes notes** of the initiative of ICCI on forming a working group comprised of the General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, IDB, ICCI, SESRTCIC and ICDT, as the focal point assuming the responsibilities of the monitoring mechanism to implement the recommendations of the private sector meetings.

46. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 31/31-E
ON
COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004).

Recalling Resolution No 32/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 28/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 31/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also the Resolution on Tourism Development adopted by the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism, held in Kuala Lumpur on October 10-13, 2001; and the Resolution on Tourism Development adopted by the Third Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism, held in Riyadh on 6-9 October 2002;

Also recalling that tourism has been identified as a priority area for cooperation in the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States;

Convinced that tourism forms a main pivot in economic development, cultural exchange and rapprochement between nations;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Invites** the Member States to cooperate in the various fields of tourism development.

2. **Expresses** satisfaction at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the OIC General Secretariat and **encourages** the two organizations to strengthen their cooperation to faster tourism in the Member States.

3. **Encourages** Member States to find ways and means to facilitate further cooperation between WTO and OIC, particularly through holding of meetings of OIC on the sidelines of WTO annual sessions in order to coordinate their position with regard to different topics.

4. **Thanks** Malaysia for hosting the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism on 10-13 October, 2001 in Kuala Lumpur and meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Conference in Kuala Lumpur on 5-6 September 2002.

5. **Endorses** the Kuala Lumpur Programme of Action for the Development and promotion of Tourism in the OIC Member States as adopted by the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism.

6. **Thanks** the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting the Third Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism in Riyadh on 6-9 October 2002.

7. **Notes with appreciation** the Resolution on Tourism Development and the Riyadh Declaration adopted by the Third Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism.

8. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the Fourth Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism on 17-19 December, 2004 and invites Member States to actively participate in it.

9. **Thanks** the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade for its efforts to organize a Tourism Fair, in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in Member States once every two years and **welcomes** in this connection the offers of the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of Lebanon and the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the first, second and third Tourism Fairs in 2005, 2007 and 2009 respectively.

10. **Takes note** of the proposal of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry to organize in future on a regular basis Private Sector Forum on Tourism and appreciates the offer of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to hold the first such Forum with the collaboration of this Supreme Council of Tourism of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Council of the Saudi Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 2004.

11. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Mali to host the Second Private Sector Forum on Tourism in 2004.

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of all the recommendations and resolutions especially those pertaining to the implementation of the Kuala Lumpur Plan of Action adopted at the Conferences of the Ministers of Tourism and to submit reports thereon to the annual sessions of COMCEC and future sessions of Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

RESOLUTION NO. 32/31-E
ON
STATUS OF THE SIGNING AND RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND STATUTES ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 33/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 32/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having reviewed the developments in respect of signature and/or ratification of the (i) Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among Member States, (ii) General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, (iii) Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States, (iv) Statute of the Islamic Civil Aviation Council, (v) Statute of the Islamic States Telecommunications Union and (vi) Statute of the Standards and Metrology Institute for the Islamic Countries (SMIIC);

Having taken cognizance of Resolution (1) adopted by the Nineteenth Session of COMCEC on the matter;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Expresses satisfaction** at the efforts of the General Secretariat, the IDB and the ICCI to speed up the implementation of the Agreements and Statutes aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among Member States.

2. **Welcomes** the initiative of COMCEC to facilitate the signing of the Agreements/Statutes that fall within the framework of cooperation among Member States and **recommends** that this practice be pursued.

3. **Notes with satisfaction** that the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States entered into force upon its ratification by more than ten Member States as required under the Agreement and urges those who have not yet done so, to do it as soon as possible.

4. **Requests** the General Secretariat and its specialised subsidiary organs to exert their efforts to convince Member States of the need to sign and ratify the Agreements/ Statutes and to regularly follow up on the matter.

5. **Calls upon** Member States which have not yet signed and/or ratified the above mentioned Agreements/Statutes to do so, at their earliest.

6. **Urges** the Member States that have ratified the above Agreements to take follow-up actions and inform the General Secretariat about the progress of implementation.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 33/31-E
ON
ACTIVITIES OF THE OIC SUBSIDIARY ORGANS ACTIVE IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE FIELDS

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 34/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 33/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the activities of the Subsidiary Organs of the OIC, namely, the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara, and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca;

Having taken note with satisfaction of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the above-mentioned subsidiary organs;

Appreciating the increasing number of joint activities among the OIC organs and agencies;

Expressing its appreciation at the role played by the subsidiary organs in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Commends** the role which the SESRTCIC and ICDT are playing each in their respective fields.

2. **Urges** the Member States to actively and effectively participate in the work of these organs and expeditiously respond to the questionnaires circulated by them, and closely follow up their documents and studies so as to achieve maximum benefit from these organs in the area of economic cooperation among the Member States.

3. **Encourages** these organs to intensify contacts with international and regional institutions particularly those working in the framework of the United Nations and others, such as Bretton Woods institutions and to benefit from the studies and reports produced by these institutions.

4. **Thanks** ICDT for organizing a training seminar, in cooperation with IDB, on "Economic Diplomacy", which was held in Casablanca on 16-20 February 2004.

5. **Urges** the Member States, which have not done so thus far, to settle their regular mandatory contributions to the budgets of these bodies, and to act for the settlement of their arrears, if any, at the earliest in view of the current financial difficulties being faced by these organs.

6. **Notes that** the Member States are to benefit from the special services offered by the subsidiary organs, above and beyond the tasks assigned to them in their work programmes, on a contractual basis.

7. **Calls upon** OIC institutions to hold consultative meetings on a regular basis concurrently with the annual sessions of the COMCEC and Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, in order to enhance the existing collaboration among OIC institutions, avoid duplication and monitor the progress of the programs assigned to each institution and learn from their respective experiences.

8. **Urges** Member States to consider, when nominating their representatives to the Board of Directors of these organs, persons who are experienced in the activities of the organs, and **expresses** the strong desirability of setting up conditions for selection of such representative to those meetings.

9. **Calls upon** the General Secretariat to consider putting in place a medium term plan for these subsidiary organs to perform tasks, and to extend to them every assistance within the framework of a three to four-year work programme, also **calls upon** the General Secretariat to better coordinate the activities of these organs with a view to achieving positive results that are relevant to changes in the international arena and international economy.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 34/31-E
ON
SUPPORT FOR THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)

The Thirty-First Session of Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Having taken note of the Resolution No. 35/10(IS) of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 34/30-E of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken note with appreciation of the report on the activities and operations of the Islamic Development Bank;

Noting with satisfaction that the Islamic Development Bank continues to expand its field of operation and activity concerning project financing, import and export trade financing, technical assistance, technical cooperation, special assistance, scholarship programme and other fields of cooperation in the Member States and the Muslim communities;

Also noting with satisfaction that for the meeting of the needs of the Member States in the area of Research and Development, IDB has established the Islamic Research and Training Institute, which is making useful contribution since 1981 and has also established two scholarship schemes and IDB prizes in Islamic economic, Islamic banking, and Science and Technology for encouraging human resources development in the Member States;

Noting with appreciation that the IDB has played an active role in the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the Member States as well as the various resolutions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Also noting with satisfaction that within the framework of its mandate and commitments aimed at meeting the needs of the Member States, the IDB has developed innovative financing instruments, technical and financial assistance programmes, various new schemes, funds and other entities, some of which were initiative under the auspices of the COMCEC for financing of projects in priority sectors and for promotion of intra-OIC trade;

Noting with appreciation that the IDB, while carrying on activities of its own in the area of science and technology, has cooperated closely with the Standing Committee for Science and Technology in the areas of information networking, implementing projects in selected areas of advanced technology, launching scholarship programmes for advance degrees and providing technical assistance for capacity building in order to help promote science and technology in the Member States.

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary-General in this regard:

1. **Expresses** its full satisfaction at the devotion and efficiency with which the IDB President and his staff are running this institution to ensure its good performance, as it continues to make an invaluable contribution to the development and progress of Muslim populations.

2. **Calls on** the Islamic Development Bank to keep up its beneficial action and strive to increase the mobilization of necessary resources for augmenting its services to the Member States, and to the Islamic Ummah at large.

3. **Commends** the IDB on the steps taken to implement the Resolutions of the 8th, 9th and 10th Islamic Summits on Preparation of the Ummah for the 21st Century.

4. **Welcomes** the decision taken by the Board of Governors of IDB at its 27th Meeting held in Ouagadougou in October 2002 to establish a special assistance programme for Africa in implementation of the New African Partnership Development Programme (NEPAD).

5. **Calls on** the Member States to participate in various schemes which the Bank has recently started implementing and to benefit from the Export Financing Scheme, the Islamic Banks' Portfolio, the IDB Unit Investment Fund, the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit, the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector, along with IDB's other existing schemes, programmes and operations.

6. **Appreciates** the varied activities of IDB aimed at the promotion of the private sector and the enhancement of its role as a key actor in the economic and social development of the Member States, and welcomes the activation of the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD) and the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC) in fulfilment of their tasks in supporting private investment and trade in the Member States.

7. **Appreciates** the Bank's efforts to create the IDB Infrastructure Fund with a capital of 1500 million US dollar to develop infrastructure in Member States in the fields of energy and hydro-electricity, communications, transport etc. and to support the private sector.

8. **Urges** Member States, which have not yet done so, to urgently complete the official procedures to join these two corporations as full members, pay their shares of subscribed capitals and start utilizing their facilities on the widest possible scales for the benefit of the private sector entities and their overall development.

9. **Welcomes** the successful launching of the Sukuk (Islamic Bond) in the world capital markets in July 2003 in the amount of US$400 million, which opened up a whole new avenue for the IDB in its quest for mobilizing additional resources in meeting the development financing needs of the Member States.

10. **Requests** the General Secretariat, the IDB, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade to jointly organize regional seminars on the various schemes approved by the COMCEC, especially the Export Trade Financing Scheme, the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit, the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States and the Islamic Multilateral Clearing Union with a view to ensuring efficient and speedy implementation of these schemes for the benefit of the business community of the Islamic Ummah.

11. **Invites** the Member States which have not yet done so to subscribe to the second capital increase of the IDB and to settle their outstanding contributions and other financial commitments.

12. **Also calls upon** the Member States to lend their support to the Bank so as to enable it to fulfil its obligations and commitments towards fostering economic development and social progress in the Member States.

13. **Appreciates** the keen interest that IDB has shown in the efforts at reorganization of the OIC in order to increase the effectiveness of the Organization, and the technical assistance it has provided for preparation of its study to restructure the General Secretariat of the OIC for implementation of quick-win initiatives in response to the challenges of the new millennium.

14. **Welcomes** the decision taken by the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank at its 26th meeting to achieve a substantial increase in the authorized and subscribed capital of the IDB in accordance with a decision taken at the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference.

15. **Expresses** appreciation for efforts of IDB to make arrangements for preparatory meetings prior to WTO ministerial meetings for consultations and exchange of views among Member States. It also commends IDB support to Member States in their efforts to effectively participate in multilateral trade negotiations and its continued provision of technical and financial assistance to Member States.

16. **Expresses** appreciation for IDB efforts to accord preferential treatment to companies and contractors from Member States in the implementation of projects financed by the Bank and calls upon IDB to intensify its efforts in this field.

17. **Expresses its appreciation** for the efforts in the establishment of the World Waqf Foundation, and **urges** the Member States to cooperate with it for advancing the Waqf affairs towards enhancing its economic and social role.

18. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 35/31-E
ON
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS OF THE OIC OPERATING IN THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FIELDS

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 36/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 35/30-E of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken cognisance of the activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and the Organization of the Islamic Shipowners' Association (OISA);

Expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the elaboration and implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States;

Confirming the important role that the private sector has to play in the development of Member States and promotion of economic Cooperation among them;

Appreciating the role played by these two institutions in their respective fields of action;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Notes with appreciation** the important role which the ICCI and the OISA are playing in their respective fields.

2. **Takes note** with appreciation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Tenth Private Sector Meeting.

3. **Congratulates** the ICCI for its important initiatives aimed at maintaining contacts with businessmen and contributing to socioeconomic development in then Member States.

4. **Appeals** to the governments of the Member States to encourage their Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry to develop a framework of cooperation with the ICCI and contribute to its programs to enhance trade and investment among the Member States.

5. **Takes note with appreciation** the recommendations adopted by its 40th Executive Committee and the 20th General Assembly Meetings held in Tehran on 4-6 October 2003 as well as the, recommendations adopted by its 41st Executive Committee Meeting held in Sharm El Shaikh on 27-28 April, 2004.

6. **Thanks** the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the National Chambers of the Commerce in Malaysia, Cameroon, Turkey and Egypt for hosting the regional offices of ICCI in order to further expand the network of the Islamic Chamber among the private sector.

7. **Expresses** thanks to the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for extending consistent support to the Islamic Shipowners' Association, giving donations and hosting its Headquarters.

8. **Also expresses thanks** to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for allowing the setting up of the Headquarters of the Bakkah Shipping Company (BASCO) in Jeddah.

9. **Takes Note with appreciation** the recommendations of the 25th Session of the Executive Committee and the 17th Meeting of the General Assembly of the OISA held in Dubai on 1-4 October 2003.

10. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the United Arab Emirates for hosting the 25th Executive Committee Meeting and the 17th General Assembly Session and also thanks UAE for approving to register the Bakkah Shipping Company (Operational Office) in Dubai without the need for a local sponsor and granting a piece of land free of cost to this project.

11. **Also appreciates** the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for extending its support to the Islamic P&I Club enabling it to operate and offering adequate coverage within the Iranian jurisdiction with the minimum legal restriction.

12. **Welcomes** the setting up of the Bakkah Shipping Company and calls upon the shipping companies, private sector and individuals of the Member States to back up and support the Company in its effort to serve the Islamic Ummah.

13. **Commends** the initiative of the OISA Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees of the Club (Asian Protection and Indemnity Club) and the Iranian Shipping Companies specially to the National Iranian Tanker Company for their joint efforts and contributions in having the Asian P&I Club to be under the umbrella of the Islamic Shipowners Association. Also expresses its thanks to the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL), for initiating and preparing a solid study to set up an Islamic P&I Club.

14. **Invites** Member States and its maritime companies to register their ships with the Islamic P&I (Protection and Indemnity Club) in Qeshm Island in Islamic Republic of Iran, in order the Club meet the level of the existing International P&I Clubs and also to encourage the treatment of the ships under cover of the Club on equal footing with national ships at the member states seaports. All the ports authorities of the member states are urged to cooperate and offer all supports and facilities to the acceptance of Islamic P&I Club covers ad certificate of entries issued by the Club. The insurance companies in the member states also to facilitate all kind of services to Islamic P&I Cub in accordance with support of the Club covers.

15. **Commends** the initiative of the Organization of the Islamic Shipowners' Association for setting up a web-based Cooperative Information System to serve the maritime companies of Member States.

16. **Urges** the Member States, which have not yet done so, to sign the Statute of the Islamic Shipowners' Association.

17. **Appeals** to Member States to continue to extend their support and assistance to the ICCI and the OISA.

18. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 36/31-E
ON
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ISLAMIC COMMON MARKET

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 33/8-E(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Tehran;

Recalling Resolution No. 37/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia;

Recalling Resolution No. 36/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting that the process of globalization and economic liberalization could offer new opportunities and challenges for all developing countries including OIC member states;

Noting also that the creation of regional and sub-regional economic groupings comprising a number of Member States and their interest in establishing Free Trade Zones and Common Markets among them are important and positive steps towards establishing an Islamic Common Market;

Recognizing that recent developments in both the global and the domestic economic environment and the emerging trend towards interdependence among developing countries - including OIC Member States - spurring them on to contribute to economic cooperation, collaboration and integration;

Recognizing also that inter-regional, regional and sub-regional cooperation among Islamic Countries is an important element in the development strategy, particularly for expanding trade and investment flow and an essential contribution for the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the Islamic Countries;

Welcoming the efforts of a number of OIC Member States which have made notable progress in building their potentialities and strengthening their competitiveness on the international markets through active participation in the global trading system and attracting more foreign direct investments.

Expressing concern that many OIC Member States have been marginalized in the international economic system through lack or weakness of institutional arrangements which are necessary for expansion of their foreign trade and participation in the international financial markets;

Taking into account that the formation of an Islamic Common Market is a long-run process and requires comprehensive studies and at the same time requires its own implementation and follow up arrangements;

Taking note with appreciation the study prepared and submitted by SESRTCIC on the establishment of an Islamic Common Market;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Emphasizes** the importance of implementing the Plan of Action to strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States; the Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among Member States; the General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States; the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among Member States; the Agreement on the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit, and the Agreement on the Islamic Corporation for the Development of Private Sector for the purpose of strengthening economic and commercial cooperation among Member States with a view to achieving the ultimate objective i.e. the establishment of an Islamic Common market.

2. **Emphasizes** also the need to reinforce economic cooperation establishing free trade zones and common markets among the Member States through their regional groupings as a positive stage towards establishing a free trade zone among the OIC Member States with the ultimate aim of creating an Islamic Common Market.

3. **Welcomes** in this connection the creation of the customs union of the Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council on 1 January, 2003.

4. **Agrees** that the establishment of an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration shall not contradict with the existing or possible international obligations of the Member States.

5. **Requests** the COMCEC to coordinate the efforts and studies undertaken or to be undertaken in this regard by SESRTCIC or the other relevant OIC institutions and centres with a view to taking necessary practical steps to reach the objectives related to the establishment of an Islamic Common Market.

6. **Reiterates** the need for specific arrangements among OIC Member States to take necessary steps to secure their optimal share in the global economic and trading system, through, inter alia, analysis of the consequences that the establishment of an Islamic Common Market could have in this respect.

7. **Expresses its desire** to see Member States extending their cooperation and coordination in the areas of market access, competition policy, transfer of technology and know how, finance, investment and eventual development of an integrated information network and an infrastructure for achieving the objective of establishing an Islamic Common Market.

8. **Invites** Member States to formulate specific proposals for cooperation and coordination in setting up centres of advanced studies, and high-level expertise in areas where they can discover potentials for expanding trade and investment among themselves with a view to developing cooperation in areas that would facilitate realization of an Islamic Common Market. It also welcomes of the undertaking by the Islamic Republic of Iran to set up a centre of advanced studies and excellence to conduct research and studies.

9. **Commends** the Islamic Republic of Iran for holding an "International Seminar on Ways and Means to Establish an Islamic Common Market" in Tehran from 27-28 September, 2000 and also commends the State of Qatar for convening an "Expert Group Meeting on the Implications of Establishing an Islamic Common Market" in Doha from 13-14 October, 2000, and **takes note of** the recommendations made by the two meetings, stressing the need to subject the activities relating to this area to effective processes of study and coordination.

10. **Appreciates** the holding of the "International Conference on Practical Measures to Establish a Common Market between Muslim Countries" by the University of Qatar, in cooperation with the OIC General Secretariat on 13-15 May, 2002.

11. **Urges** the Member States to encourage any initiative by their private sector for expanding economic, financial, trade and investment cooperation with other Islamic Countries.

12. **Stresses** the importance of trade fairs and of establishing a network of trade focal points in the Member States to facilitate expansion of trade and investment among them in an expeditious manner as an effective contribution towards the objective of establishing an Islamic Common Market.

13. **Emphasises** the importance of the launching of a round of trade negotiations among the Member States under the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System which constitutes the first stage towards the establishment of an Islamic Common Market.

14. **Appreciates** the efforts made or to be made by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade for organizing and facilitating this round of trade negotiations and calls on the OIC institutions to give their financial and technical support to these efforts including the participation of the Least Developed Countries in the trade negotiations.

15. **Thanks** the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for hosting the Islamic International Trade Fair in Jeddah from 9-14 June 2001, organized by the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the IDB and ICDT noting that a

seminar was also held concurrently by the IDB, ICCI and the Jeddah Chamber on ways and means of promoting intra-OIC trade.

16. **Notes with appreciation** the initiative of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to set up a website to provide information and data on commercial capabilities and potentials of the Islamic countries in order to facilitate intra-trade and contribute to the objective of creating an Islamic Common Market.

17. **Welcomes** the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an experts group meeting on Islamic Common Market 5-6 July, 2004.

18. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 37/31-E
ON
ROLE OF THE ISLAMIC UMMAH IN THE 21st CENTURY

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 38/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Doha, State of Qatar;

Recalling Resolution No. 37/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into consideration the relevant paragraph of Resolution No. (1) of the 17th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Also taking into consideration the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States;

Noting that the IDB document on "Preparation of the Ummah for the 21st Century in the fields of Economic, Commercial and Financial Cooperation" is a long term strategic framework document characterized by far-sightedness which provides an impetus to the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action;

Having considered of the report of the Secretary-General;

1. **Appreciates** the aforesaid initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and its significant role in preparing the Islamic Ummah to meet the requirements of international economic developments.

2. **Appreciates also** the initiative of IDB to prepare the document "Preparation of the Ummah for the 21st Century in the fields of Economic, Commercial and Financial Cooperation" and to call upon the Ummah to face the challenges posed by the 21st Century.

3. **Appreciates** the efforts made by the Islamic Development Bank with respect to the programme to reinforce trade among member states and the Bank's allocation of US$ 1 billion from its special funds and urges Member States and their relevant bodies as well as their private economic actors to take the necessary measures in order to support the efforts of the Bank to secure the necessary additional funds which amount to $ 1 billion from the collective murabaha and the two-phased murabaha.

4. **Urges** Member States to develop policies, strategies and administrative measures to supplement the efforts of the IDB in expanding intra-trade, and also **urges** Member States to designate national focal points if they have not yet done so.

5. **Expresses** its appreciation of the efforts made by the Task Forces on Training, Health and Literacy and urges the Member States and relevant bodies to combine their efforts with those of the Task Forces concerned.

6. **Calls upon** member states to cooperate in the area of prospective studies to explore the possibilities of cooperative action to deal with the phenomenon of globalization.

7. **Urges** the Islamic Ummah to acquire knowledge and skills in fields such as information and communication technology to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

8. **Urges** OIC Member States and institutions to implement diligently the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States.

9. **Appreciates** the consultations held by the IDB with other sister institutions to determine effective ways to translate the IDB document into practical programmes.

10. **Also appreciates** the role of the IDB in organizing the meeting of Regional Economic Organizations in the Islamic world at its headquarters from 16 to 19 Rabi Al Awal 1419H (8-11/08/1998) as recommended by the 8th Islamic Summit, and the meeting of regional organizations in the IDB Member States on the fringe of the 25th Annual Meeting of the IDB Board of Governors in Beirut, Republic of Lebanon, on 11-12 Sha'ban 1421H (7-8/11/2000).

11. **Commends** the IDB and other cooperating institutions for the work done during the meeting of Experts in Health, Literacy, Training and Trade, and the programme of action suggested by the Experts to implement the Summit resolution.

12. **Urges**, the IDB and other cooperating institutions to proceed with the implementation of these programmes to achieve the required quantitative objectives.

13. **Appreciates** the efforts of the Standing Committees in preparing the Ummah for the 21st century and calls upon OIC Institutions to explore the challenges of the 21st century each contributing to its respective field of competence, and to determine the response of the Ummah to these challenges.

14. **Urges** Member States to take the necessary measures required to cooperate among themselves and with OIC Institutions in achieving the proposed quantitative objectives in the fields of intra-trade, Heath, Literacy and Training.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 38/31-E
ON
PROMOTION OF COOPERATION AMONG THE STOCK EXCHANGES IN THE OIC COUNTRIES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14 to 16 June 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 39/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 38/30-E adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting that in the context of current world economic situation the OIC member states require to develop their economic structures and consolidate economic relations among themselves and with other countries by creating the appropriate climate to attract and stabilize investments;

Commending the approach of the Member States towards developing the private sector as well as encouraging the privatisation of their productive institutions;

Taking note of the importance of taking advantage of the benefits granted under the Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to market the products of the OIC Member States;

Appreciating the efforts made by most Member States to develop their stock exchanges by mobilizing and attracting national savings and channelling them into local investment opportunities to avoid flight of capital abroad;

Expressing its desire to avoid disruptive capital flows and secure the Stock exchanges of OIC Members from any future financial crisis;

Noting the advantages accruing from a specialized institution under the aegis of the Organization of the Islamic Conference concerned with coordination, monitoring and development of the stock markets of the OIC member states;

Taking note with appreciation the study prepared by SESRTCIC on the establishment of an Islamic Stock Exchange Union;

1. **Urges Member States** to continue to take the necessary steps to mobilize internal resources in the form of stocks and shares and to facilitate the optimal utilization of such resources in profitable investment projects both in public and private sectors.

2. **Invites the Member States** to press on with undertaking the necessary steps to develop their stock markets through appropriate legislations so as to enable their markets to be open to the outside world facilitating the in-flow of capital available in foreign markets, while taking into consideration the economic and monetary interests of these States.

3. **Urges Member States** to make every effort to expand the establishment of publicly owned companies facilitating wide distribution of shares among large numbers of individuals.

4. **Invites Member States** to set up a comprehensive database on their respective stock exchange and investment regimes and to explore the possibility of concluding regional agreements among themselves to establish links among their stock exchanges.

5. **Requests** SESRTCIC and ICDT to undertake necessary studies, benefiting from the experience of the Istanbul Stock Exchange, on creating and mechanism for cooperation among the OIC Member States in the areas of financial markets and clearing of stocks and bonds without such studies leading to the creation of any new bodies but the activation of existing mechanisms in such fields and submit it to the 20th session of COMCEC to be held on 23-26 November, 2004 in Istanbul.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 39/31-E
ON
THE INEQUITY OF INTERNATIONAL COTTON TRADE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE POOREST PRODUCER COUNTRIES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Bearing in mind the fundamental principles of OIC based on equity and Islamic solidarity;

Recalling Resolution No. 5/10-E (IS) on Economic Problems of the Least Developed and Land-Locked Member States, which expresses the concern of the Member States over the sharp decline in the prices of raw materials, particularly those produced and exported by the least-developed countries;

Recalling Resolution No. 6/10-E (IS) on Eradication of Poverty in the least-developed and low-income OIC Member States, which reiterates the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty, notably in the least-developed and low-income Islamic countries;

Taking into account the appeal made by the OIC to the international community to assist the Least-Developed Countries to be progressively integrated into the world economy and to strengthen their capabilities to participate in international trade;

Noting with regret that the policy of subsidy practiced by the developed countries to support their cotton producers results in the fall of the commodity price of cotton in the international market;

Considering that this inequity in the cotton trade seriously penalizes the poorest cotton producer countries by drastically reducing their export revenues;

1. **Underlines** the necessity of taking all possible measures within the OIC with a view to supporting the least-developed cotton-producer countries in their legitimate demand of securing greater added value in the processing of this product.

2. **Calls upon** specialized OIC institutions (the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Center for Development of Trade) as well as the Chambers of Commerce in the Muslim countries and the private sector in the Member Stares to explore all possibilities to foster the establishment of a cotton processing infrastructure in the concerned countries.

3. **Invites** cotton producing and processing Member States as well as specialized OIC institutions and all private individuals to take part in the upcoming meeting on cotton processing to be held in Ouagadougou.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex VI

Resolutions on cultural and social affairs

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-C
ON
STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE CULTURAL STRATEGY AND THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the Final Communique of the Fourth Meeting of the Consultative Council for Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world held at Rabat in May 2004;

Having considered the report of the Eighth Session of ISESCO's General Conference;

Having considered the Final Communique of the Third Islamic Conference of Cultural Ministers (ICCM) held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 29-31/1/2001;

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world;

1. **Affirms** its mandate to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in its capacity as the specialized body within the organization of the Islamic Conference and considering the fact that it is the living cultural conscience of the Muslim world, to pursue the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and to follow-up its implementation through the Consultative Council set up for that purpose, as well as to collaborate with relevant quarters in the Member States and the OIC General Secretariat.

2. **Stresses** the need to step up, coordinate and combine efforts and marshal potentialities and resources in order to give strong impetus to the implementation mechanisms of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world through updating, developing and adapting them to the regional and international developments as it is a flexible action plan and a dynamic framework that meet the requirements of the comprehensive and multi-purpose development of the Muslim world, taking into consideration differences, in circumstances and diversity in options and in national cultural policies of each Member State.

3. **Exhorts** the Member States to incorporate the cultural principles that help shape the individual, build civilization and attain development and progress, principles enshrined in the spirit of the Islamic civilization, into the core of national cultural policies, and stresses

the need to promote the factors of complementarity, inter-relationship and solidarity within the Islamic brotherhood that holds together the peoples of the Muslim Ummah and to adopt it as a foundation of the joint Islamic cultural action.

4. **Stresses** the critical importance of deepening the concept of the cultural and civilizational unity of the Muslim Ummah, of strengthening that concept and harnessing it in order to shape the cultural identity of the Muslim world for it is the hard core that stands fast in the face of globalization's challenges which are sweeping away the specificities of peoples and menacing their own cultural identities.

5. **Calls** upon the Member States which do not have national cultural councils, to create them, in order for the latter to coordinate activities of the cultural action therein, for the purpose of implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world, whether as part of the mission devolved on the culture ministries of the Muslim States or their respective national cultural councils, so that those councils may become bodies that support and complement already existing institutions.

6. **Calls upon** Member States wishing to implement cultural projects, to submit those projects to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which shall refer them to the Consultative Council for Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world.

7. **Commends** the decision of the 8th ISESCO Conference to increase the contribution of Member States to ISESCO's budget for the implementation of the projects of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.

8. **Stresses** the importance of activating the role of the Higher Council for Education and Culture in the West operating within the framework of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action in the West, and welcomes the resolutions and recommendations issued at its last meeting held by the Organization in June 2004, and calls upon the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to provide financial and moral support to the Higher Council for Education and Culture in the West through the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

9. **Commends** the fruitful contacts made by the Director General of ISESCO and expresses its high consideration and esteem to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for having kindly accepted to host the 4th Islamic Conference of Cultural Ministers at the end of 2004, and entrusts ISESCO with holding this conference in collaboration with the General Secretariat.

10. **Welcomes** the election of Makkah al Mukarrahmah as a capital of Islamic Culture for the year 2005 and commends the initiative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to set up a preparatory committee to this purpose. It also invites it to coordinate with ISESCO in

establishing the programme for this important Islamic Cultural event and calls upon the Member States to participate in it.

11. **Commends** the series of conferences and meetings held by ISESCO for the benefit of the Presidents of Islamic Centres and associations in the West and in Latin America, which contributed to the coordination of the Islamic cultural action in the countries of immigration and to facing the challenges imposed by the aftermath of September 11, 2001 events, and calls upon it to pursue its sustained efforts in this respect.

12. **Commends** the role of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of ISESCO in implementing the Cultural Strategy of the Islamic world and urges them to pursue this role.

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up this subject and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31
ON
THE CULTURAL ASPECTS OF THE PHENOMENON OF GLOBALIZATION

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004)

Referring to the Resolutions passed by the Islamic Summit and other Conferences, particularly the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Referring to the principles and objectives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference as well as the relevant Resolutions which call for protecting intellectual and cultural heritage and safeguarding Islamic values against external threats;

Observing the spreading of the phenomenon of globalization, the development of the means of communication and the concomitant substantial flow of information in all fields and their repercussions on the cultural aspects;

Noting with concern the dangers which may result from merging boundaries between cultures and the hegemony of a single westernized culture, especially those aspects which are contrary to Islamic values;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Expresses** thanks to the Secretary-General for his initiative to submit this subject for consideration and requests him to prepare in cooperation with Member States an in-depth study aimed at protecting Islamic culture and heritage against the negative impacts of globalization.

2. **Commends** the results of the international and regional conferences and symposia organized by the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO on the cultural and educational aspects of globalization and adopts its decisions and Resolutions.

3. **Calls on** the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO to pursue its efforts through convening specialized symposia to address this issue.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-C
ON
THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILIZATIONS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004)

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling the principles of the Tehran Declaration adopted in December 1997 by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference affirming that Islamic Civilization has always and throughout history been rooted in peaceful coexistence, cooperation, mutual understanding, as well as constructive dialogue with other civilizations, beliefs and ideologies. The Tehran Declaration also underlined the need to establish understanding between civilizations;

Referring the Resolution passed by the UN General Assembly on November 3rd 1998, which designated the year 2001 as the "UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations", and which called on governments, the UN System including UNESCO, and relevant Non-Governmental organizations, to set up and implement adequate cultural, educational and social programmes aiming at enhancing the concept of dialogue among civilizations;

Having taken note of the on-going coordination by OIC, UNESCO, ISESCO and ALESCO concerning the International conference on the interactive dialogue;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Expresses** its deepest thanks and appreciation to the distinguished efforts exerted by ISESCO in preparing the White Book on Dialogue Among Civilizations, publishing it in three editions and distributing it among the competent bodies in the member states as well as among relevant international and regional organizations.

2. **Commends** the distinguished standard and important conclusions of the international symposia, held by the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO in the framework of implementing the programmes on dialogue assigned to ISESCO during the UN Year of Dialogue, and calls upon ISESCO to continue to implement as many of these conferences and symposia as possible.

3. **Commends** the scholarly standard of the studies prepared by ISESCO on its vision and efforts in the area of strengthening dialogue between civilizations and on the Islamic cultural landscape in the West, adopts the studies, and calls upon ISESCO to distribute them to Member States and relevant Organizations.

4. **Welcomes** UN General Assembly's RESOLUTION adopted in its 58th Session on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation advocating the respect of the specificities of each culture or religion, and stressing the need to respect and protect religious sites in accordance with the relevant international treaties, which would promote dialogue among civilizations.

5. **Thanks** the Republic of Yemen for hosting an international symposium on "Human Rights and Cultures" (Sana'a, 10-11 February 2004).

6. **Welcomes** the current coordination between the General Secretariat of the OIC, UNESCO, ISESCO and ALESCO concerning the convening of an international conference on interactive dialogue, and calls upon all Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to provide all moral and financial support for the success of the activities of the conference.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-C
ON
THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNINGS OF LUNAR MONTHS AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC HOLIDAYS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by Islamic Summit and other conferences in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Requests** the 9th Session of the Islamic Committee on Establishing a Unified Hijri Calendar to prepare a unified Hijri Calendar to be adhered to by the Islamic States based on the appearance of the new moon before sunset and its disappearance after sunset according to Makkah Al-Mukarramah time or to any of the Islamic country that shares with the Holy City a sufficient part of the night.

2. **Observance** of Friday as a weekly holiday for Muslims in all countries whenever possible.

3. **Ascertaining** the beginning and end of the month of Ramadan as well as the beginning of the month of Dhul Hijjah through Shariah sighting that is irrefutable by scientific sensory or mental proof, pursuant to the Hadith of the Prophet (Peace be upon him): "Fast and break your fast as a result of sighting the crescent. However, if the sky is overcast consider the month of Sha'aban to be thirty days".

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter, to hold more meetings and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-C
ON
THE WORLD WEEK OF MOSQUES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Considering the role of mosques in consolidating solidarity and cooperation in the Islamic Ummah, as emphasized in the OIC Charter;

Recalling the importance of mosques as the meeting places of Muslims from the dawn of Islam;

Underlining the prominent role played by mosques as symbols of unity and brotherhood in the Islamic world;

Referring to Article 1, Chapter 5 of the Islamic Cultural Strategy on the revival of the role of mosques in promoting Islamic culture and values;

1. **Adopts** the observance of the World Week of Mosques to begin on the 21St August of every year, anniversary date of the burning of the Al Aqsa Mosque by Zionist fanatics.

2. **Calls on** Member States to commemorate the week through celebrations with a view to consolidating and safeguarding mosques, as holy places in accordance with the tolerant Islamic values.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/31-C
ON
THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE MUSLIMS IN KOSOVO AND SANJAK

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other relevant Islamic Conference, particularly the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Urges** all OIC Member States and the relevant OIC organizations to extend assistance to the Muslims in Kosovo and Sanjak to reconstruct their war-damaged country in the field of cultural heritage, keeping in mind and respecting the original architecture of the Islamic Shrines which existed in these places for hundreds of years.

2. **Requests** the IDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to undertake the study of cultural and economic projects with a view to implementing them to consolidate the links between the populations of these regions and their cultural heritage, identity and cultural roots and ward off the dangers threatening their Islamic identity.

3. **Extends** its thanks to all member states which provided help and assistance to the people of Kosovo during its ordeal in confronting the Serbian aggression.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/31-C
ON
PROMOTING WAQFS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETIES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004), Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Cognizant of the pioneering role of Islamic Waqfs System in enriching Islamic civilization and their effective contribution to the establishing of economic and social institutions of society as well as their notable contribution to the educational and health fields and to combat poverty;

Being convinced that paying attention to, protecting and supporting Waqfs in the legislative and administrative fields and paving the way for them to grow and develop will further their contribution to the development of Islamic societies, achievement of public participation in supporting the plan and programmes of development and fulfilling the needs of the weak categories of society;

Taking note of the efforts of the State of Kuwait to coordinate between ministries and bodies concerned with waqfs affairs in Islamic States aimed at exchanging expertise and information, holding workshops and conducting the study entitled "Strategic Vision for Promoting the Developmental Role of Waqf' as well as carrying out the implementation projects attached to it, as commissioned by the Executive Council of the Conference of Ministers of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Urges** the Member States to provide further attention and care to Waqfs in their countries in the legislative and administrative fields, and give them the chance to develop their societies.

2. **Calls on** the Member States and the concerned organs therein to coordinate with the State of Kuwait in the field of exchanging expertise, information and experiences as holding academic meetings to activate the performance of national Waqf institutions and to develop them.

3. **Expresses** satisfaction for the efforts exerted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the management and preservation of the Waqs, consisting of an inventory , registration and in enhancing their financial resources through development and investment by all means appropriate to raise funds and spend them on charity projects. **Also expresses** gratitude for the care taken by the Kingdom to manage the Waqs libraries and develop resources.

4. **Expresses** satisfaction for the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank to pay attention to Waqfs, hold seminars and meaningfully contribute towards investing and developing Waqf assets, and lauds the IDB for founding the World Waqf Organization.

5. **Welcomes** the existing cooperation between ISESCO and the General Secretariat of the Waqfs and the World Islamic Charitable Foundation in Kuwait to look after the Waqfs and

to develop them, and to organize specialized scientific symposia and to publish studies and research papers on the subject in Arabic, French and English.

6. **Requests** the OIC General Secretariat and IDB to hold a special meeting to examine and enhance the performance of the various waqfs, especially those devoted to Islamic Universities.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/31-C
ON
THE ADOPTION OF A UNIFIED STAND ON THE BELITTLING OF ISLAMIC SANCTITIES AND VALUES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Emphasizing the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on coordinating efforts to protect the sacred values and places;

Expressing deep concern at the aggression whether verbal, physical or in the form of publications, by the spoken and written words as well as by action against Muslims in many parts of the world targeting their values, sanctities, selves, properties and religious and cultural heritage, in addition to the violation, curtailment and denial of their basic rights and freedoms relating to their belief and the exercise of rituals;

Expressing its deep concern over the killing of Muslims and the aggressions against their shrines in occupied Palestine, India, and Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the world;

Taking note of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the legal and procedural aspects relating the conclusion of an international legal document that ensures respect for Islamic values and sanctities;

Expressing profound concern over the growing phenomenon of Islamophobia;

Recalling the World Declaration issued on 15 November, 1981, on the removal of all forms of intolerance and segregation based on religion and creed;

Resolving to put an end to the spreading of false information insulting to Islam through the Internet;

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Condemns** once again these aggressions and violations wherever they may occur and whatever their source, means or manifestation.

2. **Strongly reaffirms** all the provisions of the statements and Draft RESOLUTION NO.s adopted by the previous Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, particularly the 10th Islamic Summit Conference.

3. **Commends** the efforts of ISESCO and Al-Azhar Al-Sharif to prepare appropriate replies in the Internet to stop falsehoods against Islamic values and it calls for constituting a group of experts and scholars in order to establish a monitoring system in the Internet sites which introduce Islamic materials, sciences and fatwa. The group shall draw attention to the information sites which provide correct material and those which introduce erroneous religious materials.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 9/31-C
ON
DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

Also recalling the Resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, especially Resolution No. 3/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Noting that the Babri Mosque with its history spanning five Centuries was the object of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

Also noting with regret that the 10th anniversary of the Babri Masjid has passed without concrete steps being taken towards rebuilding of the Masjid or punishing those responsible for the sacrilegious act of its destruction;

Recalling also that the Organization of the Islamic Conference made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Mosque and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Mosque and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists;

Expressing deep concern over acts of vandalism and violence perpetrated by Hindu Extremists in India against the Muslim minority aimed at uprooting the Islamic culture and heritage in India. Also expressing deep anger and indignation at the destruction of the Babri Mosque, resulting in the killing of thousands of innocent Muslims and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes;

Noting with deep concern Indian statements in December 2000 on the destruction of the Hindu temple at the of the Babri Mosque;

Also noting with deep concern statements by Indian political leaders on the construction of the Ram Temple at the site of the Babri Masjid which was set for March 12, 2002; and that this intention remains on the agenda of the Hindu extremist organizations who have expressed their determination to revive the Ram Temple movement with a view to start construction of the Temple any time in the next 18 months.

Recalling the Resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of Sacred Muslim Places;

Having considered the Resolutions of the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Recommends** the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution 19/9-C(IS) adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference which calls upon the government of India to:

(a) Ensure the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

(b) Take immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Mosque on its original site, to restore it as a Holy Place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered religious symbol of the Islamic world.

(c) Remove the makeshift Hindu temple put together on the site of the Babri Mosque which is a continuation of the acts of desecration and an affront to the feelings of the Muslims in India and all parts of the Muslim world.

(d) Take effective measures to prevent the construction of a temple on the site of the Babri Mosque.

(e) Take immediate steps to ensure the protection of the other 3000 Mosques, especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the target of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

2. **Strongly** condemns the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists and hold them responsible for this outrageous act of destruction and sabotage.

3. **Expresses** deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.

4. **Condemns** the forced and illegal entry of Hindu militants into the site of the Babri Masjid on 17th October 2001.

5. **Expresses** its deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India, in view of the gross human rights violations of thousands of innocent Muslims in various parts of India, including their right to life.

6. **Recommends** that the issue be submitted to the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the OIC Member States accredited to Paris.

7. **Calls upon** the political parties in India, particularly the ruling NDA coalition, not to make the building of the Ram Temple as an election issue.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 10/31-C
ON
THE DESTRUCTION OF CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR AND OTHER ISLAMIC SITES THEREIN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular of the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Deeply concerned at the continuing violation of human rights at the hands of the Indian Security forces, in the Indian Occupied Kashmir including destruction and desecration of mosques and other Islamic sites;

Having considered the Resolution of the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on this matter;

1. Strongly deplores the destruction of the 536 year old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious aggression against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashimir.

2. Expresses its concern over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civil residents of Charar-e-Sharif.

3. Strongly condemns the burning of the Shrine of Shah-e-Hamdan and the discretion of the Jamia Mosque at Safapur, and the burning of the Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar.

4. Also condemns the continuing desecration of the Mosques and Muslim Holy Places and denial of religious rights to the Muslim population in the Indian Occupied State.

5. Urges the international community, especially the Member States to exert utmost efforts to protect the basic rights of the Kashmiri people, (including their right to self-determination according to the concerned UN RESOLUTION) as well as to safeguard their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/31-C
ON
THE DESTRUCTION AND DESECRATION OF ISLAMIC HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELICS AND SHRINES IN THE OCCUPIED AZERI TERRITORIES RESULTING FROM THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA'S AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Affirming those objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) aimed at coordinating efforts to safeguard and preserve the Islamic heritage;

Aware of the fact that the Azeri culture, archaeology and ethnography are part and parcel of the history of Azerbaijan and its people and a source of the Islamic heritage as well;

Reiterating United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolutions Nos. 822, 853, 874 and 884 on the Armenian forces total withdrawal from all the occupied Azeri territories, including the Lachin and Shousha areas, immediately and without conditions; and strongly urging Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Stressing that the mass and barbaric demolition of mosques and other Islamic Shrines in Azerbaijan, by Armenia, for ethnic cleansing is a crime of genocide;

Noting the tremendous losses inflicted by the Armenian aggressors insofar as the Islamic heritage is concerned in the Azeri territories occupied by the Republic of Armenia, including complete or partial demolition of rare antiquities and places of Islamic civilization, history and architecture, such as mosques and other sanctuaries, mausoleums and tombs, archaeological sites, museums, libraries, artifact exhibition halls, government theatres and conservatories, besides and smuggling, out of the country, and destruction of a large number of precious property and millions of books and historic manuscripts;

Fully sharing the concern of the government and people of Azerbaijan in this respect;

Having taken cognizance of the report of the OIC Secretary-General on the subject:

1. **Strongly condemns** the barbaric acts committed by the Armenian aggressor in the Republic of Azerbaijan aiming at the total annihilation of the Islamic heritage in the occupied Azeri territories.

2. **Vigorously demands** the strict and unconditional implementation by the Republic of Armenia of UN Security Council Resolutions Nos. 822, 853, 874 and 884.

3. **Emphasizes** its support of the efforts exerted by Azerbaijan at international organizations designed to put an the end to the armed aggression, erase its sequels and honouring the pledges and commitments spelled out in the relevant paragraphs of the Convention reached in the Hague in 1954 on the protection of valuable cultural items in the course of military conflicts. Those paragraphs include a reminder that where an armed conflict erupts, the states undertake to prevent the smuggling of valuable cultural items from the territories under occupation. Likewise, governments are bound to ban theft and looting of whatever type, acts of illegal violations of cultural values [which are tantamount to rape] as well as savage prejudice to the above values. They are committed to prevent such acts or reverse their effects where necessary.

4. **Asserts** that Azerbaijan is entitled to receiving adequate compensation for the damage it sustained and considers that it is the responsibility of the Republic of Armenia to give full compensation for such damage.

5. **Requests** the relevant OIC subsidiary organs and specialized agencies to explore the possibility of drawing up a program to help rebuild the mosques, educational institutions, libraries and museums in the Azeri territories liberated from occupation with the help of OIC Member States.

6. **Thanks** the Secretary-General for conveying the OIC Member States' stance on this issue to the United Nations (UNO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international bodies, and for the coordination procedures undertaken in the framework of OIC subsidiary, specialized and affiliated organs. It also thanks those organs and organizations for their response, especially for the adoption by the IDB and ISESCO of programmes to implement projects to protect Islamic holy places in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 12/31-C
ON
WOMEN AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Conscious of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world to promote Islamic revival and to create societies based on the Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's Report

1. **Requests** Member States to take the appropriate steps to organize Women's activities at national and international levels and in different fields consistent with the nature of women and the precepts of the Shariah.

2. **Requests** the General Secretariat to coordinate with the governments of Member States to support direct and sustainable relationships among Muslim Women Associations in Member States and cooperate with the existing International Women Organizations in Islamic Countries.

3. **Requests** the General Secretariat to liaise with Member States in order to hold a ministerial conference on women with a view to developing an action plan to enhance women's role in the development of Muslim societies and creating greater opportunities for women in all walks of public life.

4. **Urged** Member States to adopt a participatory approach that takes into account women's needs and strategic interests and enables women's participation in all projects and programmes developed and implemented within the Muslim Ummah.

5. **Affirms** that the teachings of the righteous Islamic religion grant special status to the family as the nucleus on which is built the Muslim society founded on religion and ethics, and reiterates the importance of Islamic teachings calling for the promotion of the status of the family.

6. **Reiterates** the need to set up a comprehensive mechanism to help the Islamic family meet the challenges of the ongoing international developments and to strengthen the capacity of the OIC Member States to face the issues related to all categories of families.

7. **Take into consideration** the proposal made by the State of Qatar aiming at setting up a mechanism in charge of all the categories of families within OIC organigram with a view to harmonizing the positions of the Islamic States on the international scene.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to work towards the creation of a mechanism within the General Secretariat structures in charge of the family, women, children, youth, the elderly and special needs categories to follow up the implementation of this RESOLUTION and submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Islamic Conference of foreign Ministers.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/31-C
ON
CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling in particular the principles stipulated in the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam as adopted by the 19th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers under Res. 49/19-P(1990) and in the Declaration on Child Rights and Protection in Islam as adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference under Res. 16/7-C(IS) (1994);

Bearing in mind the Declaration issued by the World Summit on the Child and the Plan of Action which called for the preparation of national programmes for children, the equal treatment of male and female children and the provision of equal opportunities;

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic countries die as a result of diseases from which they may be protected or because of malnutrition; and that other millions suffer from the same circumstances because of famines, drought and armed conflicts;

Expressing its deep concern over the executions faced by the Palestinian children in terms of killings, physical maiming, oppression and psychological destruction at the hands of the Israeli occupation forces and settlers, not to mention the obstruction of their education and health care, through the external and internal blockades and sieges of towns;

Also expressing grave concern about the devastating consequences Iraqi children suffer as a result of the sanctions imposed on Iraq;

Underlining the basic role of the family in the guidance and moral and material education of children;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Recalls** the principles and Resolutions of the United Nations on the rights of children adopted by all OIC Member States.

2. **Also recalls** the ratification by all OIC Member States the UN Declaration on the new Millennium, including the development goals of the Millennium relates to the rights of children to health, education and equality, in reference to the declaration on "A World Worthy of Children" and the Plan of Action also founded on the rights of children, adolescents and youth for protection.

3. **Commends** the outstanding and fruitful cooperation between OIC Member States, the General Secretariat, subsidiary, affiliated and specialized organs and UNICEF aiming at ensuring the safety, protection and development of children all over the world.

4. **Urges** the Member States to place the issue of the Palestinian children's care and protection high on the priority list commanding attention to what they are facing in terms of deliberate killings, maimings, repression and psychological destruction at the hands of the occupation forces and Jewish settlers, not to mention the obstruction of their education and health care through internal and external blockades and sieges of towns and villages and the cutting off of the roads that lead to schools and hospitals.

5. **Calls** on the Member States, in their consideration of the measures relevant to conflict prevention, management and settlement, to take all necessary measures to prevent any further armed conflicts and to provide particular care for the needs of children and women who are the main victims of such conflicts, and particularly to encourage periods of truce during conflicts, as well as safe passages such as to allow the channeling of food supplies and vaccinations and health care services, and to ban the production, storage, import, export and use of landmines. The Conference also urges the member States that planted such landmines, to assume their removal or at least to extend technical and financial assistance for the clearing of existing mine-fields whose victims in fact are more often than not among women, children and other civilians, and whose devastating effects extend far beyond the conflict period.

6. **Urges** Member States to work with the assistance of the international community to improve the conditions of children, particularly those living under difficult conditions in conflict-ridden regions and those suffering from the effects of economic blockades and sanctions imposed on their countries, as well as displaced children refugees, by providing for their physical and moral needs and by taking interest in their education and helping them to return to normal lives, and commends the efforts expended by a number of Islamic countries in this direction.

7. **Calls** for the convening of the First Ministerial Conference on the Child, and **commissions** the Secretary-General and the Director General of ISESCO to make necessary consultations with the Member States in this connection, particularly those which have outstanding expertise in this field It **also charges** ISESCO to organize this Conference in conjunction with the General Secretariat.

8. **Calls** on Member States to continue to strive for guaranteeing the human rights of children of both sexes, as they constitute the best means to achieve social justice. Also calls for the organization of a sensitizing campaign on issues of interest to them and with a view to integrating them in the national curricula of Member States in accordance with their conditions.

9. **Requests** Member States to take the necessary measures to protect children from the dangers resulting from harmful mass media programmes and to support programmes which lead to the promotion of the cultural, moral and ethical values of children.

10. **Also requests** Member States, in order to ensure the safety of the paid working children and their morals, to forbid any form of dangerous employment and to assist them to enjoy social security benefits.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to study the conditions of the schools of Muslim minorities living in non-Islamic countries in coordination with the government concerned and to submit to the next ICFM a report on the possible means to increase their numbers and to rationalize their management after receiving the views of Member States thereon.

12. **Urges** Member States to provide the General Secretariat with their observations on the Draft Convention on the Right of the Child derived from Islamic sources so as to put it in its final format.

13. **Commends** the role played by UNICEF since its establishment for the survival, protection and development of children worldwide, particularly in the developing countries; and especially the ongoing cooperation between the OIC and the UNICEF relating to the child care and protection in the OIC countries.

14. **Invites** Member States to combat child trafficking through awareness raising, capacity building of law enforcing agencies and setting up rescue and rehabilitation centers for the victims.

15. **Urges** the OIC General Secretariat and UNICEF to support Member States, when the need arises, through joint efforts and programmes in order for them to abide by their commitments vis-à-vis the children.

16. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/31-C
ON
THE EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF MUSLIM YOUTH

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youth, given the crucial role of youth in the field of the development of the Islamic societies;

Emphasizing the need of the Islamic youth for a comprehensive mechanism to be launched to boost their potential whilst preserving their Islamic values;

Underlining the necessity of finding appropriate methods to educate and rehabilitate the Muslim youth with a view to achieving the best cooperation and coordination among Islamic countries with the aim of ensuring progress and equity for all the youth of the Islamic Ummah;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Requests** the General Secretariat to prepare the First Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports programmes and determine the questions and topics to help trigger debates, and to enrich them with a view to better serving the youth of the Islamic Ummah in addition to the appointing of the appropriate date for the holding of the Conference in close coordination with the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity Games.

2. **Welcomes** enhancement of cooperation among Member States to achieve better exchange of ideas and experience between Muslim youth and youth organisations in different societies, and underlines the need to provide youth with sound entertainment and sport with the aim of developing the academic and cultural capacity of youth.

3. **Welcoming** again the decision of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the First Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports in collaboration with the Sports Federation of the Islamic Solidarity Games.

4. **Commends** the activities of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth in Riyadh aimed at raising the cultural and religious standards of Muslim youth all over the world.

5. **Expresses** its thanks to the Secretariat of the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity for charging a group of experts in the field of youth and sport to enrich the subjects and themes which will be discussed by the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports.

6. **Encourages** the Member States to enhance the vocational and professional skills of their youth imparting proper education and training and introduce micro-financing schemes towards engaging them in income generating activities and creating opportunities for self-employment.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 15/31-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE YOUTH INITIATIVE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the resolution on the Education and rehabilitation of Muslim Youth adopted by the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia;

Recalling also resolution No. 14/30-C adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the ICFM in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran;

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education, empowerment of Muslim youth and the enhancement of friendly relations among them, given the crucial role of youth in the field of the development of the Islamic societies;

Reiterating the need of the Islamic youth for a comprehensive mechanism to be launched to boost their potential whilst preserving their Islamic values;

Underlining the necessity of finding appropriate methods to educate and empowerment the Muslim youth with a view to achieving the best cooperation and coordination among Islamic countries;

Having considered the letter submitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the General Secretariat regarding the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative;

Welcoming the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative, proposed by the Working Group, containing non-governmental youth organizations from Azerbaijan, Albania, Egypt, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Turkey and aimed at convening the first-ever meeting of youth organizations, representing all Member States in the autumn of 2004 in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Recalling the statement on the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative, made by the delegation of Azerbaijan at the 10th Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia;

Welcoming also the support of the Government of Azerbaijan, extended to the organization of the first meeting of the Working Group of Islamic Conference Youth Initiative, held on 22-23 August 2003 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan;

Commending the work done by the National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Eurasian International Development Association to promote the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative;

1. **Welcomes** the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative aimed at coordination of youth activities in the service of the Islamic Ummah.

2. **Recognizes** the timeliness and importance of conducting such an Initiative in face of the growing need for youth of Islamic Ummah to meet the challenges of the globalizing world.

3. **Urges** the Member States to provide support to this initiative and contribute to its success.

4. **Calls** upon the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic Development Bank and other subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions as well as all

the relevant Islamic organizations, to support the activities of the Working Group aimed at the success of the Islamic Conference Youth Initiative.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up on this matter and to submit a report on the implementation of the Initiative to the Thirty Second session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 16/31-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its thanks to Member States, in particular, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, State of Kuwait, the ISF, Al-Azhar Al-Shareef, the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Organisation, World Islamic Da'wa Society, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Iqra Charitable Organization, the Sheikh Zayed Institution for Humanitarian and Charitable Works, the World Forum of Islamic Youth, Bait Al Zakat of Kuwait, the Moroccan International Cooperation Agency, and to all those who extended support and assistance for the establishment and functioning of the University;

Recalling the Statute of the Islamic University of Niger;

Recognizing the need to provide the University with regular financial resources and the necessary educational and material support;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on the Islamic University in Niger;

1. **Appeals** to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, and Islamic Philanthropic organizations to extend financial and material support to this important Islamic institution, considering the annual deficit due to the lack of resources; and exhorts them to provide sufficient scholarships to the needy students.

2. **Underlines** the need of contributing to the University Waqf, whose Statute had been approved during the 26th ICFM in Burkina Faso, and urges the donors to step up their efforts to achieve this objective and commissions the Secretary-General and the University Board of Trustees to work in this sense to secure the sufficient funds for the Waqf of the University.

3. **Expresses** its thanks to the Islamic Development Bank for its donation of $1,130,000 in order to finance the initial stage of the building of a new university for girls in Niamey; and thanks the State of Kuwait for donating 400,000 Euros to finance this project.

4. **Thanks** the Government of Niger for its commitment to take the necessary procedures to deliver all the University land allocated for the girls College, to build the Wall in Sai University, and finalize other construction projects approved, and urges it to grant a piece of land suitable for use for investment in the University Waqf project.

5. **Calls** on the Secretary-General to intensify his contacts with the Member States to urge them to offer donations to the Waqf of the Islamic universities in Niger and Uganda.

6. **Expresses** its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts for the good running of the University, also expresses its thanks to the government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for the generous donations of US.$ 650,000 for building the outer wall of the University, and also to the Government of the State of Kuwait for a donation of US$1,800,000.00 in favour of the Waqfs of the Islamic Universities in Niger and Uganda and also expresses thanks to His Highness Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan for donating $500,000 for the building of a student hostel in the University and to Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohamed Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the State of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharja, for his donation to build the second part of the University library and to H.R.H. Prince Abdul Aziz Bin Fahd for his donation to the building of a temporary campus for the Girls' College.

7. **Commends** the consistent support extended by the ISF to finance the greater part of the annual budget of the University and expresses thanks to it for allocating US.$ 100,000 to open an account at Rajhi Investment Company as a nucleus for the Waqf of the Islamic University in Niger [Account No. 4627520/0100037 in the name of the ISF (Niger University Waqf)].

8. **Entrusts** the Board of Trustees of the Waqf of the Islamic University in Niger to make another tour to inform about the Waqf of the two Universities, re-establish contacts with the donor bodies, and urge them to extend donations, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.

9. **Thanks** ISESCO for the assistance offered to the University in terms of lecturers, scholarships and printing machines with standardized Quranic characters. It welcomes

ISESCO's approval to monitor the project related to the revision of the University's programmes and curricula and its willingness to link the University with a number of Arab and Islamic institutions to develop library services and restore the manuscripts therein.

10. **Commends** the continuous support granted to the University by the Islamic Development Bank, the International Cooperation Agency in the Kingdom of Morocco, the World Islamic Dawa Association in Libya, Zayd Ibn Sultan Al-Nahyan Charitable Foundation, the Kuwait Beit Al Zakat, the World Islamic Charity Organization in Kuwait, the Charity Association in Ujman, the Sharja Charity Association and Fujeira Charity Committee.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/31-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda for all assistance extended to the Islamic University;

Expressing also its thanks to Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Education, Science and Culture Organization(ISESCO), the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation and Zaka House (Kuwait), the International Islamic Da'wah Society (Libya), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, the Zaid bin Sultan Al-Nahyan Establishment and other Islamic institutions for their support to the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on the Islamic University in Uganda;

1. **Invites** the Board of Trustees to continue its endeavours to ensure appropriate conditions for the University to fulfill its tasks in accordance with its Statute and the Headquarters Agreement signed by the Government of Uganda and the OIC General Secretariat.

2. **Appeals** to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic charitable institutions, to contribute material and financial assistance to the annual operational budget of the Islamic University in Uganda. Member States, institutions and individuals were also called upon to provide grants and scholarships to enable needy students from Uganda and other countries acquire University education.

3. **Requests** the Member States, the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and Charity institutions to accord debts clearance for the Islamic University in Uganda urgent and special priority to enable its managers run its affairs in an appropriate environment.

4. **Requests** ISESCO to continue programming the follow-up of the University reform in ISESCO's future plans and programmes, including sending experts to conduct advisory visits to the University once or more annually, if necessary. It requests the University Board of Trustees and Administration to follow up the implementation, as soon as possible, of the RESOLUTIONS contained in the report.

5. **Commends** the consistent support extended by the ISF to finance the greater part of the annual budget of the University. It thanks the ISF for allocating US.$100,000 to open an account at Rajhi Investment Company as a nucleus for the Waqf of the Islamic University in Uganda. It also thanked the ISF for increasing its annual contribution to the budget of the University to US$600,000.

6. **Expresses** thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council of the Fund for the decision to provide US$600,000 as a contribution from the Fund to settle part of the debts of the Islamic University in Uganda in order to enable it to carry out its noble mission.

7. **Welcomed** with appreciation, the commitment of the Islamic Development Bank to construct a Waqf project for the University in Kampala, Uganda. The government of Uganda was urged to speed up the process of identifying and donating the land on which the project is to be constructed, as promised by H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda when opening the King Fahd Plaza in September 2002.

8. **Approves** the report and Resolutions of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee for supervision of the management of the King Fahd Plaza in Uganda, and requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the Resolutions contained in the report.

9. **Entrusts** the Board of Trustees of the University to conduct a new tour to inform about the Waqf of the University and re-establish contact with donors and urge them to extend donations in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.

10. **Welcomes** the preparation by ISESCO of the Draft Financial and Administrative Regulations for the Islamic University in Uganda, and the Structural Organization of its

organs, and its functional description. It also welcomes the review by ISESCO of the Strategy of the University for the years 2000-2005, stresses the need to complete the rest of the assessment process in the University, and thanks it for these efforts.

11. **Approves** the membership of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Omar Nasseef to the Board of Trustees of to the Board of Trustees of the Islamic University in Uganda and his election to its chairmanship.

12. **Thanked** the former chairman of the Board of Trustees, H.E. Sheikh Jassim Yousif Al-Hijji of Kuwait, for the great contributions he made to the Islamic University in Uganda as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1988 to January 2004.

13. **Thanked** the former Rector of IUIU, Professor Mahdi Adamu, Nigerian national for the contribution he made to the University for 9 ½ years (August 1994 to January, 2004).

14. **Welcomed** and congratulated the new Rector of IUIU, Dr. Ahmad Kawesa Sengendo, Ugandan national, and wished him success in his duties.

15. **Thanked** the Islamic University in Uganda for jointly organizing the first international symposium on "Islamic Civilization and Culture in Eastern Africa" with IRCICA (15-17 December 2003). Encouraged the University to continue organizing such symposia and conferences with the view of strengthening Islamic culture and civilization and Islam in general.

16. **Expresses thanks** to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia represented by the Ministry of Finance for granting reserve electric generator for King Fahd Plaza in Kampala.

17. **Expresses thanks** to the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and to the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the important financial assistance which has been given to the University to get rid of its arrears.

18. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/31-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having taken note of the continuing satisfactory progress of this University;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for its continued material and financial support aimed at covering the operational expenses of the University and the construction of its new campus;

Also expressing special appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for offering a unique educational opportunity in all fields and branches of knowledge to the more than 1600 students from all OIC members countries and Muslim Minorities in the world;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Calls** for moral support and contribution to the progress and development of the Islamic University of Malaysia with the aim of enhancing its capacity and enabling it to operate with its full potential to achieve its objectives.

2. **Appeals** to the **Islamic Solidarity Fund**, OIC to increase its special financial supportt and contribution to the IIUM Endowment Fund in order to finance the living expenses of at least 10% of international needy students.

3. **Appeals** also to all Member States, the IDB, the ISF, ISESCO, WAMY, Muslim World League, and all other Islamic Institutions to support moraly and finacially the programmes and activities of the **INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MUSLIM UNITY** (IIMU) which was newly established and founded within the International Islamic University of Malaysia, to help it in building its capacity and to enable it to fully operate in order to carry out its vision, mission and functions aiming to foster and strengthen the Unity and Solidarity among Muslim Ummah.

4. **Notes** the establishment of the **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MUSLIM UNITY** (ICMU) under the International Institue for Muslim Unity, IIUM.

5. **Notes** also with great satisfaction the progress achieved by the University in the fields of research and learning, thanks to its enlightened management and support extended by the Government of Malaysia to all its activities and programmes.

6. **Thanks** all charitable organizations, societies, institutions for their matrial and moral support, and continutious backing to the Endowment Fund.

7. In this respect, it lauds the contributions of the IDB, Iqra Society, the ISF, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation in Kuwait, and Rahma Society in UK.

8. **Thanks** Malaysia for its decision to raise the percentage of international students from 12% to 20%. It also thanks the University for bearing the tuition and accomodation fees of oustanding and brilliant foreign students.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32n Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 19/31-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Noting with satisfaction the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the realization of other necessary objectives;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Urges** all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Muslim World League and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the University so that it can achieve its objectives.

2. **Calls upon** the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh to ensure continued financial and moral support to the University.

3. **Also calls upon** the General Secretariat to continue cooperation with ISESCO, to provide academic assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh, from Member States Universities, by sending lecturers there to teach and by providing scholarships, preparation of curricular and supply of books in accordance with the specific requirements of the University.

4. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended assistance to the University.

5. **Commends** the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the development of the University, bearing its operational costs and the building of the new University Campus so as to accommodate a larger number of students.

6. **Encourages** the Islamic University in Bangladesh to strengthen bilateral cooperation with Universities and higher seats of learning of repute within the Member States so as to enable its students and teachers to embark on advanced studies and research at the institutions of their choice.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/31-C

THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR A NEW CAMPUS FOR THE ZEITOUNA UNIVERSITY IN TUNISIA

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Underlining the importance of the role played by this educational institution for more than thirteen centuries in the service of Islam and Muslims;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Reiterates** its support for the construction of a new campus so as to enable the University to consolidate its educational and cultural role, and for the implementation of the project.

2. **Commends** the initiative of the Republic of Tunisia to create the Higher institute and Tunisia House for Islamic Civilization and Comparative Civilizations and calls on the Member States, the IDB and donor Islamic institutions to support the achievement of this important cultural project.

3. **Thanks** the IDB for extending assistance to the Zaitouna University and calls on it to continue extending material support until the completion of the construction of all the components of the project.

4. **Appreciates** the initiative of the government of Tunisia for granting scholarships to 86 Muslim students from different parts of the world to study at the Higher Institute for Islamic Civilization of Zaitouna University.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 21/31-C
ON
KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Taking note of the request submitted by the relevant authorities in the Republic of Chad on the King Faisal University in N'jamena;

Mindful of the role assumed by King Faisal University in N'jamena (Chad) in spreading Islamic culture and civilization;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Urges** Member States to extend material and moral aid to King Faisal University in N'jamena, Chad.

2. **Thanks** the ISF for its assistance to the University and invites it to continue to do so. It also calls on the Islamic Development Bank and other Islamic institutions to extend every possible aid to the University.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 22/31-C
ON
THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH, TIMBUCTU, MALI

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Welcoming the efforts being made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for the development of the Institute;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Appeals** to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Joma'a Majid Foundation in the Arab United Emirates, and other Islamic institutions to continue providing material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuktu so that it may achieve its objectives.

2. **Appeals** to the Member States which have technical capabilities in the fields of conservation and processing of manuscripts to provide scholarships to the officials of the Institute to enhance their competence in these fields.

3. **Expresses** its thanks to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) and invites them to pay greater attention to the Institute and provide it with the necessary technical assistance so that it may continue to carry out its functions.

4. **Calls on** all Member States to provide the Institute with teachers and technical infrastructure to enable it to take in students in the fields of science and technology.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/31-C
ON THE
REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN)

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Emphasizes once again** the importance of establishing the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and encouraging the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries.

2. **Appeals** to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools to contribute generously to this project.

3. **Expresses its appreciation** of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to establish this Institute and ensure its operation and extends its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has extended to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the secondment of a number of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report on the activities and operation of the Institution to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 24/31-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Thanks** the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat for their cooperation on the construction of the Mosque, the two schools and the related facilities.

2. **Thanks** the IDB for taking charge of the construction of the Mosque, the Secondary School and the related facilities.

3. **Calls** on the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the project of the Islamic Centre.

4. **Expresses** satisfaction with the work carried out by the Africa Muslim Committee in supervising the implementation of the Islamic Centre Project in Guinea Bissau, and thanks the ISF for extending the necessary financing to complete the building of the secondary school of the Centre.

5. **Expresses** sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the State of the United Arab Emirates for the financial support and assistance it has extended to the Centre, especially for bearing the expenses of the construction of the Primary School.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 25/31-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the Islamic Institute of Translation, Khartoum, and having considered the report of the Republic of Sudan on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum;

Appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government to advance this Institute and to ensure its continuity; furthermore appreciating the important mission fulfilled by the Institute in promoting the field of translation and training students and teachers in the areas of foreign languages and translation, thereby creating the possibility of balanced civilized dialogue that would satisfy the desired objectives of the Organization;

Considering the financial difficulties faced by the Institute which impede the fulfillment of its Islamic mission;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Urges** the Member States to extend assistance to the Institute so as to enable it fulfill its desired mission.

2. **Renews** its gratitude to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its continuous support to the Institute.

3. **Requests** the Islamic financial institutions, foremost of which are the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to extend regular financial assistance to the Institute to enable it to continue functioning in the best way.

4. **Urges** the Institute of Translation in Khartoum to continue its cooperation with the King Fahd Institute of Translation in Tangier and the other similar institutions.

5. **Commends** anew the financial support extended by the Government of the Sudan to the budget of the Institute to enable it to perform its role in an optimal manner, and to solve the financial difficulty it is experiencing.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 26/31-C
ON
ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC AUTHORITY ON THE HOLY QURAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Referring to the principles, objectives, and relevant Resolutions calling for the propagation of the Quran, and the immaculate tradition and cultural heritage and of the major references of Islamic Sharia;

Having considered the contents of the working paper submitted by the Ministry of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs of the State of Qatar pertaining to setting up an International Islamic Authority on the Holy Quran;

Having taken note of the RESOLUTION adopted by the 12th Session of the Islamic Fiqh Academy on this issue;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on this issue;

1. **Recommends** to finalize consultations between the Ministry of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs in the State of Qatar, the Sponsor of the project, and the Ministry of Waqfs, Islamic Affairs, Dawa and Guidance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the King Fahd Academy of the Holy Quran in Al-Madinah Al-Munawara which was recommended by the Islamic Fiqh Academy.

2. **Recommends** also for the OIC General Secretariat and Al-Azhar in Cairo take part in consultations with the authorities cited in the above-mentioned RESOLUTION NO. of the Islamic Fiqh Academy, and Rabita Al Alam Al Islami.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 27/31-C (PAL)
ON
THE TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WITH UNIVERSITIES IN OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Calls on** the Member States to allocate scholarships for the Palestinian students injured in Al- Quds Al-Sharif Intifada and the other students who are members of families of the Intifada martyrs and detainees. It calls on the Universities of the Member States to allocate scholarships in the names of child martyrs of the Intifada, and to name one of those scholarships as Mohammad Al-Durra Scholarship.

2. **Recommends** the necessity of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people and students of Palestine through establishing twining relations between universities in OIC Member States and Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories to enable the latter to overcome their difficulties, confront Israeli designs aimed at impeding their functioning, fulfill their educational mission in the best manner and contribute to the reinforcement of the Palestinian national authority.

3. **Recommends** also to extend every kind of financial and academic support and assistance to Palestinian universities so that they may be able to play their national and educational role, and support in particular the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its importance of supporting the steadfastness of its people and preserving the Arab and Islamic heritage of the Holy City.

4. **Calls upon** the Union of Islamic Universities to coordinate with the Member universities to facilitate and encourage twinning agreements between the Palestinian universities and the Member universities of the Union with a view to fostering joint cooperation and allowing Palestinian universities to take advantage of these universities' experiences according to their priorities and needs.

5. **Calls upon** Member States to see to it that their universities receive delegations of trainees and academics from the Palestinian Universities in order to offer them work.

6. **Calls upon** the Member States to contribute towards qualifying Palestinian youth in their Universities and exchanging educational delegations with the Palestinian Universities in various academic fields, so as to assist the Palestinian Universities in performing their tasks within the framework of overall reconstruction by the Palestinian National Authority and lessen the material and academic difficulties which may emerge.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 28/31-C (PAL)
ON
THE TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Calls on** the General Secretariat and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to follow up the printing and communicating the curricula to the Member States in implementation of relevant Islamic RESOLUTIONS.

2. **Urges** the competent authorities in the Palestinian National Authority to expeditiously produce the new curricula for the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine.

3. **Calls upon** Ministries of Education and all educational organizations and institutions in Member States to contribute effectively to the teaching of the subject of the History and Geography of Palestine approved for the three levels of education so as to inform the young generations of Muslims about the land of Palestine as well as its identity and history and the rights of its Muslim Arab people, and safeguard the Islamic, human and historic heritage of Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

4. **Appeals** to the Member States and the IDB to contribute to financing the printing of the approved curricula in the three OIC languages as well as in the national languages of non-Arabic-speaking States.

5. **Recommends** to ISESCO to supervise the publication of the curricula and **Requests** it to distribute them to Member States.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 29/31-C (PAL)
ON
THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, AND OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Taking into consideration the policy and practices of the Israeli occupation authorities towards the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories, aimed primarily at the eradication of their cultural identity, along with Israeli attempts to wipe out and disintegrate their national and Arab identity at all levels, the Israeli policy of systematic stamping out of education aimed at creating a poorly educated generation ignorant of its history, culture, nation and Ummah, the Israeli practice of a policy geared towards maligning Arab and Islamic civilization and causing prejudice to Arabs and Muslims, the Israeli abuse and distortion of historical and geographical facts, in addition to the continued Israeli policy of racial discrimination by claims of Israeli superiority over the citizens of the occupied Arab territories which constitute a blatant violation of their fundamental rights;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Condemns** the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural organizations and institutions in the Palestinian territories aimed at denying the Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity and severe them from their culture and history, and distort their civilization to serve the designs of occupation.

2. **Appeals** to Member States to support the efforts of the Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at promoting the educational process in the Palestinian territories under its National

Authority during the transitional period, and to provide it with all technical and financial means to develop curricula for all educational levels.

3. **Calls upon** Member States to promptly extend every kind of academic and financial assistance and support to the educational sector in the occupied Palestinian territories so that it may fulfill its mission in the reconstruction of the Palestinian national institutions and so that the educational institutions may contribute to the establishment of the Palestinian people's national authority on their homeland, and thus further enhance Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine.

4. **Calls upon** Member States to extend every necessary financial assistance to provide the funding required for the promotion of education in the occupied territories in general and in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in particular, in view of the great difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities aimed at the judaization of the Holy City and at severing it from its Arab-Islamic environment.

5. **Reiterates** its full support and assistance for the inhabitants of occupied Syrian Golan in their resistance against the oppressive Israeli practices, and their legitimate struggle to preserve their cultural, national and Arab identity, and appeals to the United Nations, to specialized international bodies and institutions and in particular to UNESCO, to counter those Israeli policies which violate international laws and conventions.

6. **Calls** for support to the steadfastness of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and proclaims its support for the maintenance of Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of educational and cultural material.

7. **Recommends** to provide all kinds of financial and academic assistance and support to the Palestinian universities in implementation of the RESOLUTIONS of successive Islamic Conferences, and to work for the establishment of a Centre of higher studies in the occupied Palestinian territories.

8. **Calls upon** the international community to shoulder its full responsibility in forcing Israel to abide by the principles of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and of all international conventions on human rights, particularly the Geneva Convention of 20.8.1949 on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War, as well as the relevant RESOLUTIONS adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

9. **Invites** Member States to extend the necessary facilities to Palestinian students to enable them to enroll in their universities and specialized institutes and thus help them complete their university studies and also stresses the need to increase the number of scholarships and school seats for the Palestinian youth in the Islamic States, particularly in higher education, technical and technological and teacher training. It also expresses its

appreciation to all Member States which have responded to this appeal, in particular the Government of the Republic of Tunisia which graciously gave 50 scholarships to Palestinian students in many of its schools and higher institutes starting from 2000/01 academic year.

10. **Calls** for extending support to the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its vital importance in strengthening the resistance of the Palestinian people and enabling them to continue their university education and also calls for extending the technical and financial assistance necessary for the development of the university and for solving its problems so that it may open new branches and thoroughly fulfill its educational mission.

11. **Expresses** its high appreciation for the role played by Palestinian schools and universities in the preservation of the Palestinian culture and heritage and in confronting the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organizations in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

12. **Reaffirms** the need to implement the RESOLUTION addressed to the administrations of Islamic Universities to receive training and academic missions from the universities of the occupied territories to work in their universities for short periods.

13. **Condemns** the practices and actions of the Israeli occupation authorities against educational and other institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, their cancellation of the Syrian educational syllabus in the villages of the Golan and its substitution by an Israeli one, their imposition of the teaching of Hebrew instead of Arabic, their replacement of the teaching staff to serve the goals and directions of Israeli policy, their taking measures to deny Syrian Arab citizens access to higher education in Syrian universities and their denying some of those who manage to get education in those universities the right to return to their homes.

14. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 30/31-C (PAL)
ON
PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER, HUMAN HERITAGE AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, as well as the decision adopted by Al-Quds Committee;

Condemning the aggressive actions perpetuated by Israel for the expansion of the borders of Al-Quds Al-Sharif Municipality, for the establishment of more settlements around it, and for annexation of the city;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Reiterates** the necessity of implementing all previous Islamic RESOLUTIONS on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al-Quds.

2. **Calls** for continued urgent and effective action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to forcing Israel to rescind its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, reaffirming the City's Arab-Islamic character and rejecting its annexation or judaization, pursuant to the relevant RESOLUTIONS of international legality, and particularly UN Security Council RESOLUTIONS No. 465 and 478; and exerting all efforts to put these two RESOLUTIONS into effect in conformity with the RESOLUTIONS of the United Nations and the international legality.

3. **Requests** the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with international agencies and institutions and particularly with UNESCO to preserve the historic structure of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the ancient buildings surrounding Al-Quds Holy Enclosure and act to close the tunnel and stop the excavation works especially on the south and west of the Holy Enclosure and preclude the implementation of any designs aimed at destroying and removing the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

4. **Recommends** that an information symposium on the City of Al-Quds be organized specially at the present juncture, in order to show the imminent dangers to the City, and the need to safeguard the Islamic and Christian holy places and guarantee the freedom of religious rites for all believers.

5. **Urges** the General Secretariat and Member States to provide material assistance to enable the Palestinian people to face Israeli challenges and schemes aimed at obliterating religious landmarks in the Holy City of Al- Quds, and reaffirms the need for extending all sorts of support and assistance to the Palestinian Arab residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to enable them to refurbish their houses, support their steadfastness and protect Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif from demolition and waste.

6. **Calls** on Member States, public institutions, and the private sector to extend the necessary assistance to the Baitulmal Quds Agency whose Director General was appointed and Casablanca headquarters donated by His Majesty, the late King Hassan II, may Allah have mercy on his soul. Recommends that the Director of Baitulmal Quds Agency shall visit the Islamic States in order to inform about the Agency and its objectives and to organize information campaigns in this respect, on the example of the visit he made to Cairo in October 1999.

7. **Condemns** the aggressive and expansionist Zionist policies and particularly the policies seeking to establish further settlements and to transfer and resettle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif - policies aimed at seriously altering the demographic and historic status of these territories by judaizing them, and may jeopardize the current peace process and constitute a flagrant violation of international laws and of relevant U.N. and Security Council RESOLUTIONS.

8. **Condemns** the decision of the Israeli Security Minister to allow Jews to pray in the Aqsa Mosque and urges all member states to endeavour at the level of all international fora in order to defeat that decision.

9. **Expresses** its strong indignation over the recent desecration of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the new round of massacre of the Palestinians, resulting in martyrdom of hundreds of Palestinian people who have stood up against the acts of desecration of Islamic holy places.

10. **Expresses its high appreciation** for ISESCO's initiative of organizing an International Conference on the Protection of Islamic and Christian Sanctities in Palestine under the patronage of the King of Morocco in Rabat from 7 to 8 June 2002, adopts the final declaration of the Conference and the approved media and public relations action plan to inform the public on Al-Quds in Western capitals, and extends its thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Mohammed VI for his patronage of the Conference and for addressing a lofty message to the participants.

11. **Commends** the strenuous efforts made by His Majesty the late King Hassan II, may Allah have mercy on his soul in establishing the Baitulmal Quds Agency and enabling it to fulfill the Islamic mission of preserving the Islamic character of the city of Al-Quds. It

also commends the fine efforts exerted in this regard by his successor, His Majesty King Mohamed VI.

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 31/31-C (PAL)
ON
THE ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC SHRINES IN THE CITY OF AL-KHALIL (HEBRON) AND OTHER PALESTINIAN CITIES

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other relevant Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing deep concern at the designs being devised against the precinct of the Ibrahimi Mosque in the occupied city of Al-Khalil with the aim of judaizing it, seizing part of it and preventing worshippers from entering and normally offering in it the five daily prayers;

Recalling Security Council RESOLUTION NO. 904 (1994) on the Massacre in the precinct of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil;

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on the subject;

1. **Requests** Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international fora to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure access to it for Muslim worshippers and preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only as it has been through the ages; and warns Member States against any slackness in this regard as this would encourage Israel to undermine the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines.

2. **Calls on** Member States to ensure the restoration of the old town in Al-Khalil as well as the remaining Islamic relics and shrines on the Palestinian lands to safeguard the heritage and culture of this historic city and its resident Palestinian families in an effort to counter Jewish colonization.

3. **Strongly condemns** the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, in particular, the massacre perpetrated by the settlers against Palestinian worshippers in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Ramadan 1414H killing tens of martyrs.

4. **Strongly condemns** also the aggressive Israeli scheme for the partition of the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and building a Synagogue therein, which constitutes an aggression against Islamic Holy Places and feelings and a violation of all international Conventions and Charters, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

5. **Condemns** the Israeli aggression against the civil, educational, cultural, scientific, civilizational and religious institutions in the territories of the National Palestinian Authority and particularly in Jenin, Ramallah, Kalkilia, Naplouse and Beit Lahm.

6. **Strongly** denounces and decries the dredging by the Zionist entity of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, leading to the fall of a large section of the Mosque's fence on the Western gate, also condemns the racial separation wall being built by the Zionist occupying authority on Palestinian lands, which has led to the seizure of a large part of Palestinian territories, calls on the international community and the International Court in the Hague to condemn this act which is in breach of international law and to stop it forthwith.

7. **Commends** the efforts of the Islamic Scientific, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) for documenting the crimes under the title: "Jenin Camp: Testimony to Israeli Crimes", and calls on ISESCO to distribute the book to various relevant international institutions, organizations and bodies in order to expose and condemn these practices.

8. **Welcomes** ISESCO initiative to convene an international conference to be held in Rabat in February 2003 in order to document Israeli war crimes and calls on all Member States to provide appropriate financial and moral support to the "International Observatory" for the Documentation of Israeli War Crimes in the creation of which was decided in the Kingdom of Morocco in order it to carry out its mission in the best conditions and entrusts ISESCO with the supervision of the observatory.

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 32/31-C (SO)
ON THE
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE
(IRCICA), ISTANBUL

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the resolution adopted by 10th Islamic Summit Conference in Putrajaya;

Recalling also Resolution adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the ICFM; and the Resolution of the Nineteenth Meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre (Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 24-25 January 2004);

Having taken note of the Report submitted by the Director General which includes the Centers Plans of Action for 2003/2004 and 2004-2005, as well as the report and Resolutions adopted by the Nineteenth Session of its Governing Board. Taking note that the Centre has undertaken preparations to commemorate the 25th anniversary of its establishment with a ceremony and a series of cultural activities. Commends the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of Culture and Islamic Heritage in an optimal way, and highlights the efforts exerted by its Director General in this respect;

Having also taken note with appreciation of the diverse activity executed by the Centre to increase awareness in world opinion of world Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia and Herzegovina and of its efforts in preserving and maintaining that heritage;

Having considered the report of the Director General on the matter;

1. **Expresses** its gratitude and appreciation to H.E. Dato Seri Mahathir Mohamad, former Prime Minister of Malaysia, for his unremitting support for cultural development and scientific research in the Islamic world, and expresses its appreciation to IRCICA for having created, in collaboration and consultation with the competent Malaysian authorities, the "Mahathir Award for Islamic Studies" as an expression of gratitude by the Centre, and for its decision to award the first prize in 2005 to studies on the Malay world.

2. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Centre for presenting the fourth group of the "IRCICA Award of Excellence in Research" to five distinguished scholars, and the second group of the "IRCICA Award for Patronage in the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage and Promotion of Scholarship" to four private museums and one well-known scholar from the

Muslim World, in an award presentation ceremony, which took place in Istanbul on 22 October 2003.

3. **Lauds** the efforts made by the Centre and particularly its Governing Board for the implementation of the Resolution of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference and the Twenty-eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers commissioning IRCICA to attach the name of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdelaziz – may Allay Rest his soul in peace – to an important sector of its future activities in the field of Islamic Heritage, in appreciation of His High Highness's unflagging support, during the Chairmanship of the Islamic Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, **lauds** particularly the efforts made by IRCICA's Governing Board in its 19th Session (Istanbul, 2-3 Dhul Hijja 1424H/24-25 January 2004) in which it discussed the proposals previously formulated by the Centre, the note of the General Secretariat of the OIC on the purpose, and the letter of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the subject, and **lauds** the Governing Board's recommendation commissioning IRCICA to **reserve** a new innovative and large-scale activity to be concretized with the creation of an Award carrying the name of "Prince Faisal bin Fahad Award for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage" which will take place periodically through an international competition in one field of the preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage and will be sponsored from the Center's budget. The first Competition will be devoted to the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage.

4. **Commends** also the organization by the Centre of the second International Symposium on "Islamic Civilization in the Balkans" in Tirana, capital of Albania, on 4-6 December 2003 under the patronage of H.E. the Prime Minister of Albania.

5. **Commends also** the organization by the Centre of the International Symposium on "Islamic Civilization in Eastern Africa" jointly with the Islamic University in Uganda, in Kampala on 15-17 December 2003 under the patronage of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda.

6. **Commends also** the organization by the Centre of the International Congress on "Cultural Contacts in Building Universal Civilization: The Role of Islamic Contributions" in Sharjah, UAE, on 17-19 January 2004 under the patronage of H.E. Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohamed al-Qassimi, UAE Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah and in collaboration with the American University of Sharjah.

7. **Commends** the efforts of the Centre to successfully finalize the 6th International Calligraphy Competition in the name of the Iranian Calligrapher Mir Imad al-Hasani at the end of March 2004.

8. **Commends** the organization of a series of successful international workshops on "Architectural heritage today" which continued through the Ninth Workshop of

Architecture "Mostar 2004" held in Mostar from 16-27 July 2003, and welcomes the project to hold the 10th Architectural Workshop and Seminar in Mostar next July.

9. **Welcomes** the project of the Centre to organize an international symposium on "Syria in the Ottoman Epoch" to be held in Damascus, Syria in March 2005 in Cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Syria and under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Bashar al-Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic.

10. **Commends** the preparations undertaken by the Centre to implement the recommendation issued by the Board in its 18th and 19th Sessions to organize the "First International Conference of Islamic Archeology" in Istanbul in April 2005; and academic forum to be held periodically and to bring together archaeologists, curators of museums, excavating archeologists and specialists of Islamic Archeology from around the world.

11. **Welcomes** the project of the Centre to organize the third symposium on "Islamic Civilization in the Balkans" to be held in Bucharest, Romania, in cooperation with the Romanian Academy of Sciences in 2006.

12. **Welcomes** the recommendation of IRCICA's Governing Board concerning the organization of a ceremony and cultural activities on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Centre, inviting, among others, the former members of the Governing Board. Welcomes also the proposal of the Governing Board about the publication of a special book on this occasion.

13. **Commends** the efforts made by the Centre to activate its cooperation with some international organizations, in particular with UNESCO, given that this cooperation is beneficial for the Center's activities, and noting especially that the existing memorandum of understanding between the two sides has recently been reinforced.

14. **Commends** its appreciations for the Center's efforts aiming to preserve the Islamic Cultural Heritage and identity of the Islamic communities in non-member countries of the OIC; and requests the Centre to continue these efforts and asks the Member States and the Islamic Institutions and personalities to provide the Centre with the necessary support to be able to achieve this noble task.

15. **Requests** the Centre to continue deploying its valuable efforts to activate dialogue among civilizations by implementing one of the programmes of activities that the Organization of the Islamic Conference intends to execute in this respect.

16. **Notes** with gratitude and appreciation the efforts made by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director of IRCICA, since the Center's establishment until today, which are marked by an innovative spirit and excellent style, and expresses its thanks and deep appreciation to the staff members of the Centre for the distinguished efforts they have made and are still making in fulfilling the aims entrusted to the Centre.

17. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the host country (the Republic of Turkey) and to the other Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (host country of OIC) for the voluntary material and moral support they are extending the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.

18. **Expresses** its thanks to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions to the budget of the Centre and calls upon the other countries to regularly pay their contributions and settle their arrears to the budget of the Centre.

19. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 33/31-C (SO)
ON THE
ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on the subject;

1. **Commends** the efforts of the Secretary-General and the staff of the General Secretariat of the Academy as well as the activities carried out since 26th session of the Islamic Commission.

2. **Expresses** its appreciation to His royal Highness for his noble initiative on the Restructuring of the Islamic Fiqh Academy in order to enable it to perform its great missions in these delicate circumstances; and calls on Member States to continue to support the Academy and to contribute to the attainment of the aspired material and moral development.

3. **Thanks** the Secretary-General of the Academy for his efforts and initiatives aimed at implementing His Royal Highness's proposals.

4. **Commends** the academic achievements of the Islamic Fiqh Academy and and its "Ijtihad" on current issues in areas of social and economic life, while taking into account the changes dictated by contemporary time in line with the spirit of the magnanimous Islamic Shari'a, notably the maxims of Fiqh project which is partly financed by the Sheikh Zayd

Charitable and Humanitarian Organization, and the Economic Fiqh Symposium which examined and focused on the Economic Fiqh Encyclopedia project.

5. **Commends** the quality of the books and documents published by the Academy, especially the "Magazine of the Academy" which is now at its 40th volume.

6. **Thanks** the Academy's Scientific Council for its decision to continue considering the subject of investing Waqf resources during its 15th Session to be held in the Sultanate of Oman.

7. **Requests** anew the Member States which have not yet paid their contributions to the budget of the Academy to do so, and for all Member States to continue extending support to the Academy to enable it to carry out its tasks and achieve the economic Fiqh encyclopedia, in order to serve Islam and the vital causes of the Ummah.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 34/31-C (SO)
ON
THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and the other Islamic Conferences and particularly the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference which reiterates the importance of the functions and objectives of the Islamic Solidarity Fund which aim at strengthening the solidarity of the Muslim Ummah by contributing to the implementation of the religious, cultural, scientific and social projects and programmes, whether in Member States or in the interest of Muslim communities and minorities in non member states;

Noting with appreciation the achievements of the Fund over the past twenty-nine years, which embodied in its support to official and popular institutions in charge of cultural, higher education, Islamic guidance and youth welfare affairs throughout the Islamic World;

Noting with satisfaction the realization of 64.4% of the capital of the ISF Waqf and stressing the need to make every effort to complete the financing of the US$ 100 million -

capital so that the Waqf can provide the Fund with adequate proceeds to ensure the self-financing of its annual budgets;

Confirming the noble aims of the ISF which is an honourable symbol of joint Islamic will among the Member States and its utmost attention to Islamic solidarity;

Having considered the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF on the activities of the ISF and the implementation of its budget for the Financial Year 2002/2003 as well as the financial constraints and obstacles faced by the Fund in financing its budgets and executing its annual programmes, resulting from paucity of its resources;

1. **Expresses** its determination to preserve this important Islamic organ which is really considered a shining symbol of Islamic solidarity.

2. **Appeals** to the Member States to pledge annual donations, within their capabilities to the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the Waqf s Fund.

3. **Expresses deep thanks** and appreciation to the Member States, which have made donations to the Fund and its Waqf during the Financial Year 2001/2002 in particular the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the State of Qatar.

4. **Considers** with appreciation the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on its activities.

5. **Takes note** of the Permanent Council's approval of the Fund's closing account for 2002/2003 financial year and its budget estimate for 2003/2004 financial year.

6. **Calls upon** the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue extending assistance to cultural, social and educational projects in the Islamic world while attaching priority to projects approved by the Islamic Summit Conference and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

7. **Welcomes** the constitution of the new Waqf Supervisory body, and calls on it to explore the best means of investing the Waqf.

8. **Expresses** thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council of the Fund for its decision to provide US$ 600,000 as a contribution from the Fund to settle the accumulating debts of the Islamic University in Uganda in order to enable it to continue to carry out its noble mission.

9. **Also expresses** thanks and appreciation to the OIC Secretary-General and to the Permanent Council, to its Chairman and to the Executive Bureau of the Fund, for the efforts they make to realize the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 35/31-C (SO)
ON
THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Standing Committees and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 30th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran from 28 to 31 May 2003, and having considered the Resolutions adopted by the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Malaysia from 16 to 18 October 2003;

Taking note with appreciation of the outstanding report of the Director General of ISESCO to the Conference, which contains details of programmes and activities implemented by ISESCO within the framework of ISESCO's Action Plan for (2001-2003) and the projects and issues concluded in its Medium-term Plan (2001-2009), **expressing its appreciation** and satisfaction with the innovative and integrated projects, programmes as well as educational, cultural, scientific and informational activities contained in the current ISESCO Plan (2004-2006);

1. **Commends** the outstanding achievements of ISESCO in the fields of education, science culture and communication which have earned it the commendation and appreciation of Member States and Islamic communities, which have benefited from them, **commends** the report submitted by ISESCO's Director General to the Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference on ISESCO's activities and important achievements between the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Sessions and requests the organization to continue its studious efforts to achieve its noble objectives.

2. **Considers with appreciation** the report of ISESCO on its participation of ISESCO in the first phase of the World Summit on Information Society held in Geneva on 10-12 December 2003 and commends the joint programme of action elaborated in cooperation with UNESCO to participate in the second phase of the Summit due in 2005 in Tunis **and calls** on Member States, civil society institutions and the private sector to contribute and to participate in the preparatory activities of the Tunis Summit so as to achieve from it the desired maximum benefit for the Islamic World.

3. **Expresses** deep appreciation of the efforts of ISESCO and the activities carried out in order to present clearly the image of Islam in the West, and counter attempts made by several Western media to undermine Islam and its sanctities, especially after the

September 11 events. It **underlines** the good organization of these activities and the academic and scholarly standard of the participants.

4. **Expresses** pride in the outstanding position occupied by ISESCO in the international arena through effective relations of cooperation with great international and regional organizations which resulted in the implementation of hundreds of joint programmes, thus contributing to the expansion of its action, strengthening its credibility and international prestige, and enabling it to gain important additional financial resources. This has made it possible, by virtue of this new position, to effectively contribute to the cultural edification of the Islamic Ummah and the achievement of its comprehensive renaissance, and commends the new cooperation programmes agreed upon by ISESCO and a number of international, Arab and Islamic organizations, namely UNESCO, WHO, ALECSO, the Ministry of Waqf and Islamic Affairs in Kuwait, the Islamic Charity Organization, the World Islamic Call Society and the Al-Ibrahim Charity Institution.

5. **Commends** the standard of ISESCO's publications and **lauds** the educational, scientific and cultural research and monographs that respond to the needs of the Ummah and aspirations for achieving overall advance and face future cultural, intellectual, scientific and technological challenges, **commends** the great civilizational projects set up by ISESCO to develop the sectors of education, science, culture and communication in the Islamic world and invites Member States as well as international Islamic and Arab institutions to contribute in the finance of those projects.

6. **Expresses** its utmost appreciation for the report submitted by ISESCO on its efforts to preserve the identity of Al-Quds Sharif and its holy places and to support and protect Palestinian educational, cultural and scientific institutions from any attempt at demolition, obliteration and judaization, and **requests** ISESCO to pursue these commendable efforts, it **also commends** ISESCO's activities specially designed to support the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and **urges** Member States and donor institutions to contribute to the support and rehabilitation of those institutions.

7. **Lauds** the results of the Arab Forum of Education, convened by ISESCO in Beirut, on 17-20 February 2004, in cooperation with the Arab Thought Foundation, UNESCO, ALECSO, the Union of Arab Universities, and the Arab Bureau of Education for Gulf States (ABEGS), and **praises** the excellent collaboration between these institutions aiming at developing education fields in Member States. It also welcomes the initiative of holding the 2nd Conference in Beirut in March 2005 on Higher Education in the Arab World "Future Prospects".

8. **Expresses** gratitude and appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for kindly accepting to host the Sessions of ISESCO's Executive Council and General Conference, in December 2003, and **commends** ISESCO's initiative to exempt the Islamic Republic of Iran from paying US$ 500,000 of its arrears and allocating them to the reconstruction of educational, scientific and cultural institutions destroyed by the Bam earthquake.

9. **Commends** the efforts directed by the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) towards consolidating cooperation between the universities and higher education institutions in the Islamic world, and **lauds** the project of the Virtual Islamic University and the project of the unified Identity Card for the students of the universities of the Islamic world, within the framework of the Federation's plan for the years (2004-2006). It also **expresses** its appreciation for the efforts exerted by the Director General of ISESCO Secretary-General of the FUIW, towards developing the Federation's action and upgrading its programmes and projects.

10. **Praises** the activities implemented by ISESCO, on the occasion of the celebration of the city of Rabat as capital of Arab culture for the year 2003, and **lauds**, likewise, the programme prepared by the Islamic Organization on the celebration of Sanaa as Capital of Arab Culture for the year 2004. It also welcomes the participation of ISESCO in the celebrations in the France city Lille for as European Cultural City for the year 2004, thus fostering civilizational links with the cultural institutions in the West for the interest of Islamic communities abroad, and commends ISESCO;s efforts in this respect.

11. **Considers** with appreciation the reports presented by ISESCO on its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, to implement the Cultural Strategy of the Islamic World, and to enhance its mechanisms and vision of the means of interaction with international changes and **thanks** ISESCO for its efforts and achievements in these areas. It also welcomes ISESCO;s initiative to prepare the draft Islamic document on cultural diversity, and requests it to report it to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

12. **Extends** its sincerest thanks and gratitude for His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, member of the supreme council and Governor of Sharjah, for his continued support to the Organization and its various activities and programmes, and his sponsoring of the third General Conference of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, which was held in the premises of Sharjah University during March 2004, and thanks Sharjah University for playing host to the Conference.

13. **Takes pride** in the UN Economic and Social Council's decision to grant ISESCO observer status in the Council, which is indicative of the international community's appreciation of ISESCO's mission and role in promoting the culture of justice and peace, and propagating the values of dialogue among civilizations.

14. **Extends** sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its financial support of US$100,000 to ISESCO as contribution to the reactivation of Iraqi cultural institutions and **welcomes** ISESCO's initiative set up a committee of Muslim experts to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of destroyed archaeological sites, and to prepare a practical programme for its involvement in Iraq in coordination with Member States and in cooperation with the competent authorities of the Transitional Governing Council of Iraq and other international actors. The Commission calls for

contribution to the ISESCO Fund for the Preservation of Iraqi Cultural Heritage and for close cooperation to control smuggling of Iraqi artifacts and ensure restoration of despoiled objects to Iraqi museums.

15. **Welcomes and commends** the initiative taken by ISESCO and the Republic of Tunisia to convene an international conference in Tunisia in October 2004 on "Islam and Solidarity", with a view to highlighting the lofty significance of these Islamic values, underlining the initiative taken by H.E. President Zine Abidine Ben Ali to set up a World Solidarity Fund, to combat poverty and promote human development in the developing countries, an initiative being adopted by the UN General Assembly in its RESOLUTION 265/57.

16. **Applauds** the outstanding performance demonstrated by the Director General of ISESCO and the effective role of the Organization under his patronage to achieve renaissance in education, science, and culture in the Islamic world and highly appreciates his successful efforts to obtain extra-budgetary financial resources which enabled to implement civilizational projects and programmes and realize a significant reserve of financial resources. The Commission also takes pride in the decision of the World Economic Forum to grant Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri membership of the Forum's Council of 100 Leaders.

17. **Welcomes and extols** the RESOLUTION of ISESCO's Eighth General Conference (Tehran 27-29 December 2003) on the re-election of H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as ISESCO Director General for a six-year term, expressing the Member States' appreciation for his great competence, high qualification and efficient management of the Organization, and also for his outstanding efforts in developing educational, cultural and scientific activities within the Islamic world.

18. **Expresses** its gratitude to the Member States that have paid their contributions to the budget of ISESCO, and invites Member States that have overdues or have not yet paid their contributions to the ISESCO budget to honour their financial obligations so as to enable it to implement its educational, scientific and cultural programmes and projects that are highly important for joint Islamic action, and **invites** Member States that have not yet joined ISESCO to hasten to do so and take part in the Organization's projects and programmes. It also calls on the esteem leaders of the Islamic world o grant donations to ISESCO.

19. **Extends** its utmost thanks and gratitude to His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani for his unfailing support to ISESCO and for kindly granting an annual financial support of 200,000 US$ donations as a contribution for the implementation of its pogramme and activities in backing the propagation of Arabic language and the promotion of Islamic culture.

20. **Expresses** its deep gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd bin Abdulaziz, to his Royal Highness, Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz and to the

Second Deputy Premier, His Royal Highness, Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz, for the generous support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the programmes and activities carried out by ISESCO with regard to Arabic language teaching and Islamic culture as well as dialogue among civilizations and activities geared to the cultural institutions in Iraq, to Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

21. **Expresses** its sincere gratitude to the Kingdom of Morocco (Seat Country) and to its Sovereign, His Majesty King Mohamed VI for kindly patronizing a number of ISESCO's activities in Morocco, for addressing lofty messages to the participants and for the continuous support of His Majesty's government, which enabled ISESCO to fulfill its mission in the best possible way.

22. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 36/31-C (SO)
ON
THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the ICIC;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Committee's Nineteenth Meeting held in Dakar, Senegal from 9 to 10 December 2003;

Having considered the Report of the Chairman of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent on the activities of the Committee submitted to the Meeting;

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on the matter;

1. **Urges** the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives, invites all Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the Committee so that it may implement its programmes.

2. **Calls** on the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to exert efforts regarding refugees and detainees and provide for their care and protection in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner's Office for Refugees and the International Committee of Red Cross and other relevant regional and international organizations.

3. **Expresses** profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for extending support and facilities to the Committee at its inception.

4. **Expresses** its utmost thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Senegal for hosting the 19th Session of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, held in Dakar on 9-10 December, 2003, and commends its decision to sign the ICIC Agreement.

5. **Expresses also** its sincere thanks to the ISF for extending support to the Committee, and **appeals** to the ISF to continue extending further support to it.

6. **Expresses** its sincere thanks to the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros, for signing the ICIC Agreement and calls on it to complete soonest the ratification procedure.

7. **Expresses** its profound thanks to the Republic of the Sudan, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Qatar for ratifying the ICIC Agreement.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. NO. 37/31-C (AO) ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY SPORTS FEDERATION (ISSF) RIYADH

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, particularly the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having taken note of the Resolutions adopted by the 3rd General Assembly of ISSF and of those adopted by the previous sessions, particularly the 8th Session held in Riyadh in October 2003 as well as the Report of the Secretary-General of the Federation on the various activities of the Federation;

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on this subject;

1. **Approves** the future activities which the Federation decided to undertake in **2005 at the top of which the first edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games**.

2. **Expresses** its gratitude to the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Table Tennis Tournament held in Tehran from 1 – 5 December 2003, in which 35 National Olympic Committees from Islamic countries, congratulates the countries that achieved good results at the tournament and participated. It also thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran for its determination to host the 2nd edition of Islamic Solidarity Games in 2009.

3. **Expresses** its gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the Costodian of the Two Holy Mosques and HRH the Crown Prince, Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard and the 2nd Deputy Prime Minister, Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, Inspector General and Minister of Aviation, for continued support extended by the Kingdom to the Federation and **for hosting by the Kingdom to the Horse Racing Championship, which took place in Riyadh between 23-27 December 2003, and also for hosting the first edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games to be held between 8-20 April 2005, and thanks particularly HRH Prince Sultan Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Saudi National Olympic Committee and his deputy, HRH Prince Nawaf Bin Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz for their keen interest in these activities.**

4. **Urges** Member States to attach more attention to the activities of the Federation and to extend to it all possible financial and moral assistance and to participate effectively in its various activities.

5. **Calls on** those Member States which have not yet fulfilled their commitments towards the Federation to do so soon so that the latter may carry out the required activities especially accession to Membership of the Federation **and to pay, the arrears of their annual contributions to enable them to participate in the vote during the forthcoming General Assembly of the Federation in 2005.**

6. **Expresses** its thanks to the ISSF for hosting and organizing the Government Expert Meeting in order to prepare a Preparatory Working Paper for the First Islamic Conference for Ministers of Youth and Sports.

7. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to H.R.H. Prince Sultan Ibn Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity for his interest and care for the issues of sports in the Islamic World particularly in the areas of sports medicine and anti-doping.

8. **Expresses its thanks to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for hosting the 4th Session of the Sports Medicine and the fight against Drugs to be held between 24-28 July 2004 which will be conducted in English language.**

9. **Congratulates the Nigerian Olympic Committee for winning the Prince Sultan Ibn Abdulaziz Crown of Achievement during the session of the African Games which took place in Abuja, leading all the Islamic countries which participated in the session, with the best hope for continuous progress.**

10. **Welcomes the convening of the first edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games to be hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, between 29 Safar – 11 Rabiul Awwal 1426H (8-20 April, 2005) and urges all Member States to participate and to accord it maximum attention.**

11. **Expresses its thanks to the Higher Organizing Committee of the first Islamic Solidarity Games for including those with special needs to the Games of the session, and for giving interest to the participation of this group in the Games.**

12. **Recommends that the Islamic Broadcasting Organization and the International Islamic News Agency coordinate with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Foundation to cover the coming activities of the Foundation, in particular, the Islamic Solidarity Games to be held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2005.**

13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 38/31-C (AO)
ON
THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ARAB ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Thirty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report submitted by the World Federation of Arab Islamic international Schools;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the matter;

1. **Recommends** further the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, Islamic Solidarity fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the Plans and Projects of the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools and to extend to it all possible assistance for their implementation.

2. **Recommends** the continuing support for holding Training Sessions for Teachers of Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkans.

3. **Recommends** also the contribution for printing the manual for teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers which has been prepared by the Federation, and to its distribution among Muslim children by establishing a Printing press for the Federation at its headquarters as well as other Printing Presses in central locations in the Islamic States in order to facilitate its distribution and the benefit derived from it in those States and among Islamic countries.

4. **Invites** the IDB to continue its contribution to printing books for Afghan children, and the Arabic language book for non-Arabic young people in needy states.

5. **Requests** support for the Open Complementary Studies Institute in Khartoum so that it may continue its activities as well as the N'jamena Teachers Institute in Chad by providing each one of them with a Printing press to meet their needs in terms of text-books and other publications.

6. **Recommends** to support the project of the World Examinations' Council for the Arab-Islamic Schools which has been established by the Federation, in collaboration with the League of Islamic Universities and the Muslim World League, and which aims at placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well-known Islamic Universities.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex VII

Resolutions on science and technology

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RESOLUTION NO.1/31-S&T
ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD INCLUDING ISRAELI PRACTICES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN HEIGHTS AND IN OCCUPIED SOUTHERN LEBANON AND WESTERN BEKAA FORMERLY UNDER OCCUPATION

The Thirty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Having noted the resolution No. 1/10-ST(IS), and 1/30-ST adopted respectively by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shaaban 1424H (16 to 17 October) and the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

A. ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Recalling previous Resolutions on this subject especially Resolutions 2/19-E, 17/21-E, 22/22-E, 29/23-E, 32/24-E, 32/25-E, 35/25-E and 36/26-E, 39/27-E, 40/28-E, 1/29-ST and 1/30-ST of the Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers respectively;

Deeply concerned at the continuing deterioration of the global environment, including the worsening trends in environmental pollution and the degradation of natural resources;

Stressing again the right of all human beings to enjoy a healthy and non-polluted environment, as a basic human right;

Re-emphasizing the right of States to protect their environment from harmful activities, and to cooperate among themselves to that end;

Noting with concern that the condition of the environment has reached a stage that requires taking effective measures to stop its deterioration;

Noting that while there has been progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, at various levels, particularly at the national level, the lack of fulfilment of international commitments agreed upon at Rio has been very disappointing;

Stressing the commitments of the developed countries envisaged in Agenda 21 and Rio Declaration adopted by UNCED;

Recognizing that environmental degradation both natural and manmade is a major global concern which requires the strengthening of international cooperation and extending effective contributions for the protection of the environment;

Noting with satisfaction the recent developments towards the finalization of the International Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought, which was adopted in Paris in September 1994 and inviting the Member States, which have not ratified all the relevant conventions, including the International Convention on Combating Desertification, to do so, as soon as possible;

Stressing the need for closely and constantly monitoring the global environmental situation and relevant activities and also supporting the establishment of mass-destruction-weapons-free-zones in the Muslim world;

Expressing also its deep concern over the devastating effects of hazardous, toxic and radioactive wastes on humankind and the environment and supporting the establishment of mass-destruction-weapons-free-zones in the whole world;

Strongly condemning the attempts by some developed countries to export their hazardous and radioactive wastes for dumping in developing countries, and appealing to Member States to sign the Basel Convention on Dangerous wastes and the Bamako Convention and relevant international agreements;

Guided by the teachings of Islam which enjoin the Muslim peoples to safeguard the bounties that Allah has granted them on Earth;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this subject,

1. **Encourages** Member States to continue to incorporate environmental considerations in their developmental policies.

2. **Urges** Member States to cooperate and coordinate within the existing Desertification Regional Centers for preparation and implementation of NAP and RAP in accordance with article 11 of the CCD.

3. **Invites** Member States to exchange information and experience in various environmental fields such as desertification, climate change and loss of biological diversity.

4. **Urges** developed countries to provide new and additional financial resources specially for protection of global environment in general, and loss of biological diversity.

5. **Also Urges** the Member States which have not ratified all the UN International Agreements on the Environment including the International Convention on Desertification and Drought to do so as soon as possible so that the Convention can come into force.

6. **Calls on** Member States to mobilise available financial and institutional resources needed for implementing national programs of environmental protection.

7. **Emphasizes** the commitments of developed countries in transferring environmentally sound technologies and know-how to developing countries in accordance with the provisions of chapter 34 of Agenda 21.

8. **Urges** the Member States to attach greater importance to the question of the protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and to its relevance to sustainable development.

9. **Condemns** Israel's continued rejection to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and carrying out uncontrolled nuclear programs.

10. **Requests** the international community, particularly relevant United Nations Organs, to conduct active scientific research on the rise in sea levels, and its socio-economic impacts, so as to protect the coastal zones and the wild life in the territories of the Member States.

11. **Urges** the developed countries to discharge their obligations under prevailing international agreements on the transfer to developing countries of financial resources and environmentally sound technologies.

12. **Reaffirms** the determination of the Member States to work for the strengthening of international cooperation in seeking solutions to global environmental problems and requests the donor countries and international financial institutions to extend further support to regional networks and national focal points in States stricken by desertification.

13. **Stresses** that multilateral cooperation for the protection of the environment should include the provision of additional financial resources and access to environmentally sound technologies for the developing countries.

14. **Calls for** the dissemination of pioneering experiments for the application of environmental development in the Islamic States and the use of the latter's available expertise in this field, whether through bilateral cooperation or multilateral programs for the exchange of expertise.

15. **Requests** Member States to promote coordination and cooperation among environment monitoring networks and remote-control sensing Centers and coastal control posts and all other environment protection organs in Islamic States.

16. **Urges** all Member States to continue consultation and coordination among them at all international meetings including consultations relating to environment protection, especially in the field of biological diversity, climate change, desertification, hazardous and radioactive waste.

17. **Rejects** the imposition of obligations on developing countries to contain the phenomenon of climate changes in addition to the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol on the UN convention on Climate Changes and calls on Member States to oppose this orientation wherever it deemed necessary.

18. **Expresses** its satisfaction at the fruitful cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations Environment Program.

19. **Calls for** the intensification of this cooperation with emphasis on the problem of the remnants of World War II and other wars in the Islamic countries, which impedes development of their societies, and calls on the international community to address the problem immediately and take the necessary measures to remove land mines and war remnants in countries concerned.

20. **Appeals** to the parties to World War II to expeditiously provide Member States with information, data and maps on mines planted in their territories during the war and commit themselves to extend immediate aid and assistance required for the removal of these mines which still cause huge damage to human lives and obstruct development and construction in vital areas, while taking into consideration the decisions of the UN Conference on the Question of Mines which was held in Geneva in 1996.

21. **Calls on** Member States to intensify coordination and consultation among themselves in the framework of the UN and others, particularly specialized agencies concerned, on tackling this subject in an effective and meaningful manner.

22. **Expresses** solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning its position on the question of the minefields left on in its territory by World War II, their grave effect on the environment and the accidents and grievous damage they cause to thousands of its citizens. Also appeals to Member States to stand in solidarity with the Jamahiriya in its efforts to overcome this problem and its right to demand compensation for the damage and that the countries responsible for the mine danger, finance mine-hunting operations and produce minefield maps to the Libyan authorities concerned.

B. ISRAELI PRACTICES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, THE SYRIAN GOLAN HEIGHTS AND IN OCCUPIED SOUTH LEBANON AND THE WESTERN BEKAA FORMERLY UNDER OCCUPATION

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling previous OIC and other International Resolutions on this subject;

Recalling also the UNEP GC decision (UNEP/GC.19/107) on environmental situation in occupied Palestine and Arab territories, and expressing deep concern over the continued degradation of the environmental conditions in the occupied Palestine;

Also recalling resolutions 14/11-E and 15/18-E of the UN Environment Program with respect to the environmental conditions in the Palestinian Arab Territories, and the Syrian Golan and Lebanese territories occupied by Israel;

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC;

Referring to the decision of the World Conference on sustained development, held in Johannesburg from 16 August to 24 September 2002, concerning foreign occupation as one of the major obstacles to sustainable development;

Reaffirming the rights of mankind to a dignified life enjoying a healthy environment, free of pollution as a basic human and sacred right;

Expressing deep concern over the escalating brutal and expansionist practices of the Israeli occupation authorities which include seizure of land and water-resources, the demolition of houses, the construction of new settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab Territories, especially in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the Syrian Golan, the uprooting of trees, the destruction of crops, the cutting off of irrigation waters, the deforestation of wide expanses of land and the use of toxic gases with the attendant serious effects on the Palestinian and other Arab inhabitants and the economic and social situation in those lands;

Expressing deep concern upon the dumping by Israel of Highly toxic radioactive and chemical wastes in the Mediterranean sea and particularly in the Lebanese regional waters;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on this issue;

1. **Condemns** and censures Israel for its aggressive policies, the confiscation of Palestinian lands, the setting of forests on fire, the cutting off of irrigation water and the seizure of water resources and polluting the neighbouring countries' coasts thereby causing considerable degradation of ecological conditions in occupied Palestine and aggravating the economic and social situation of the citizens.

2. **Condemns** Israel's continued occupation of the Arab Palestinian territories, the Syrian Golan, and parts of southern Lebanon, including the Shabaa Farms, as an obstacle to the sustainable development of the Arab citizens of the occupied Arab territories.

3. **Reaffirms** the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan and other occupied Arab territories, and considers illegal any violation of this right.

4. **Urges** UNEP to update its report on the environmental situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and submit it to the GC for immediate reaction.

5. **Requests** the Member States to continue to extend help and assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and the citizens in the Lebanese territories previously occupied, in drawing up the plans deemed necessary for environmental conservation within these territories and stresses the need to adopt concrete measures for consolidating such plans and taking steps to expose the policies pursued by Israeli occupation authorities which have led to ecological degradation in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan and the previously occupied Lebanese territories.

6. **Strongly Condemns** Israel's persistence in changing the legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and its practices aimed at changing its environmental conditions as well as its geographical, demographic and historical features and at imposing Israeli laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan.

7. **Calls for** the strengthening of the cooperation among the Member States in the field of earthquake monitoring and establish a mechanism from the Member States on the Read Sea so as to monitor earthquakes in the region and exchange the necessary information on treating this phenomenon.

8. **Condemns** Israel's persistent defiance of the will of the international community by refusing to join the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and to submit its nuclear facilities to the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), as well as its implementation of nuclear programs bound to cause a serious hazard to the neighboring Islamic States. It also **passionately appeals** to the international parties and bodies concerned to take the necessary steps to put an end to such hazards while emphasizing the importance of cooperation among the Member States concerned in the field of monitoring radiation fallout in the area.

9. **Opposes** the introduction of amendments to annex 7 of the Basle Convention on the prohibition of exporting dangerous wastes from OECD countries to non-OECD member countries until the states signatory to the Convention have approved the provisions of the annex.

10. **Strongly** emphasizes the need for in-depth studies of crucial issues on the environment affecting Member States so that they can keep abreast of their future development and implications.

11. **Requests** the Secretary General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31-S&T
ON
THE SITUATION IN REGIONS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD AFFECTED BY ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS, IN PARTICULAR IN THE BASIN OF THE ARAL SEA AND THE REGION OF SEMIPALATINSK

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Proceeding from the fact that any ecological catastrophes irrespective of the nature of their origin touch the interests of all countries of the world community and **reaffirming** the need to apply the principles of Islamic solidarity regarding these disasters;

Taking into consideration the extremely difficult situation in the Aral Sea basin where the world community during the last decades practically lost the second largest freshwater lake in the world as well as in Semipalatinsk region which has been the largest nuclear tests site in the world;

Understanding that the dangerous consequences of continuous drying of the Aral Sea influence the change of climate in northern hemisphere especially in the Asian continent;

Realizing the responsibility of the Islamic Ummah for the future of Muslim nations which inhabit the Aral Sea region and Semipalatinsk nuclear test site zone;

Deeply concerned that the catastrophe, which envelopes all spheres of life in the regions of the Aral Sea and Semipalatinsk and has no any national limits, acquires a global character;

Recognizing that ecological imbalance is a major threat for the genetic pool of hundreds of thousands of people living in the Aral Sea and Semipalatinsk regions;

Welcoming the efforts being made by the OIC and Governmental charity organizations of some Islamic countries for financial support and humanitarian aid for the Aral Sea region;

Supporting the participation of international and regional organizations (United Nations, European Union, World Bank) in the programme of rehabilitation of the Aral Sea region;

Noting that Semipalatinsk nuclear site has witnessed nuclear tests on a large scale including high intensity tests on the surface which have been conducted during the last forty years;

Recognizing that the consequences of the nuclear explosions will influence for a long time the environment of the region and the health of many generations of the people living there;

Taking into consideration decisions of the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development as well as principles of the U.N. Millenium Declaration regarding solution of environmental problems, as a component element of Sustainable Development;

1. **Supports** the efforts aimed at the rehabilitation of the Aral Sea and the ground of Semipalatinsk nuclear site which are undertaken by the Government of Kazakhstan as well as regional, international and charity organizations.

2. **Appeals** to Member States and also to the international community to provide political, economic and financial support aimed at limitation of the impact of destructive consequences of the said catastrophes and at preventing further spreading of these ecological problems, and requests the Islamic Development Bank and charity foundations of the Muslim countries to explore ways and means to evolve programme providing support to the regions of the Aral Sea and Semipalatinsk coordinated with existing international, regional and national programmes.

3. **Decides** to include this subject in the Agenda of the Second Islamic Conference on Ministers of Environment due to be convened in the year 2005 by ISESCO.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-S&T
ON
THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling the Resolution 51/39 dated 10 December 1995 of the United Nations General Assembly on the role of science and technology in the field of international security and disarmament as well as resolution No.3/30-ST and 3/10-ST(IS) respectively adopted by the 30th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shaaban 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003);

Taking into consideration the strategy for Science and Technology Developments in Islamic Countries and its implementation mechanisms as prepared by ISESCO in collaboration with COMSTECH and approved by the Ninth and Tenth Islamic Summit Conferences;

Considering that new scientific and technological developments, especially space technology and its applications have extensive and important impacts on the everyday life of all nations and would strengthen the socio-economic development of the Islamic Countries; and that in this respect the UN Third Conference on the Peaceful exploitation and utilization of the Extra-Atmospheric Space (UNISPACE-III) held from 17-30 July, 1999, has set the world general policy to enable the entire humanity to benefit from the possibilities offered by Space Science and Technology;

Considering the need to ensure an effective coordination between the activities carried out by OIC Organs and institutions in the field of Science and Technology in the best interest of the Joint Islamic Action on the subject;

Recognizing that the control regimes in the field of science and technology would increase the gap between developing and the developed countries and also recognizing that transfer of science and technology for peaceful purposes to the developing and Islamic Countries would effectively promote North - South relations;

Recalling the Final Declaration of the 11th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Durban, South Africa, in September 1998 which inter-alia, the heads of States expressed that "the imposition of restrictions on the transfer of technology through Non-Transparent export control regimes with exclusive membership obstruct the socio-economic development of the developing countries";

Bearing in mind the exclusive and discriminatory character of certain export control regimes which are in contravention with the legal obligations of the Nuclear States and advanced industrial nations parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, Biological Weapons Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention;

Emphasizing that multilaterally negotiated guidelines to regulate the transfer of the advanced technology, equipment and materials with dual use would contribute to strengthening international peace and security;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the issue;

1. **Reaffirms** that the exchange of science and technology for peaceful purposes should be made in the interest of mankind and should be aimed to strengthening the socio-economic development of the Islamic Countries.

2. **Invites** all States, particularly the developed countries, to commence multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested countries on the universal and non-discriminatory guidelines on transfer of advanced technology, materials and equipment with dual use applications.

3. **Requests** all advanced industrial states parties to international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties to review their existing national trade regulations and render them consistent with their obligations under those treaties by removing all restrictions beyond those established within the treaties.

4. **Encourages** the relevant international organizations and agencies to facilitate the transfer of science and technology for peaceful purposes to the developing countries.

5. **Takes note** with satisfaction for the large scale participation of the OIC Member States in the Third U.N. Conference on the Peaceful Exploitation and Utilization of the Extra-Atmospheric Space (UNISPACE-III) held from 19-30 July 1999 in Vienna to study the appropriate ways and means to promote an effective cooperation between the OIC Member States in the field of Space Science and Technologies for a sustainable development.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to examine the best way to ensure an effective coordination between the activities carried out by the various OIC organs and institutions in the field of Science and Technology in order to dynamize and harmonize the Joint Islamic Action on the subject.

7. **Thanks** the Government of Malaysia for organizing the First Conference on Science and Technology: "Science and Technology for Industrial Development in Islamic Countries - Facing the Challenges of Globalization", held on 7 – 10 October 2003 in Kuala Lumpur, and adopts the first declaration and resolutions of the Conference.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-S&T
ON
COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES IN CONTROLLING EPIDEMIC DISEASES AFFECTING MAN, FAUNA AND THE FLORA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling resolutions 30/23-E, 33/24-E, 38/25-E, 39/26-E, 42/27-E, 43/28-E, 4/29-ST, 4/30- ST adopted respectively by the Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and Ninth, Tenth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its deep concern over the worldwide spread of infectious diseases affecting human beings, animals and natural life in recent years;

Further expressing its concern over the spread of AIDS as a result of non-adherence to religious values and the slow progress of medical research to prevent and cure it;

Noting the serious threat of malaria to member countries;

Considering the gravity of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE - Mad Cow Disease) epidemic and its effect on animal and human health as well as on the world economy and international trade;

Lamenting years of continued devastation on human lives caused by malaria in several member states particularly in Africa;

Expressing its appreciation for the preventive and curative health measures taken by Member States during the pilgrimage season in particular;

Further expressing its deep appreciation for the excellent and efficient health services provided by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to pilgrims;

Considering the necessity of promoting cooperation among the Islamic States in the field of health in general;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Calls** for closer coordination between Member States and other countries on the one hand and the World Health Organization on the other hand in order to fight against this danger through the use of new vaccines and immunization schemes against contagious diseases.

2. **Calls** on member states to coordinate their efforts soon in the context of the WHO to prevent the spread of BSE on their territories.

3. **Calls** for greater coordination and cooperation among Member States in the area of health through the enforcement of international health regulations, such as vaccination of pilgrims going to the Holy Land, improvement of health conditions in addition to cooperation on health sensitization before pilgrims' departure through the media in their countries.

4. **Calls also** on Member States to collectively organize the fight against the expansion of the AIDS pandemic and to seriously uphold medical research efforts in this field at national, regional, and international levels, and invites the Secretary-General and ISESCO's Director

General to constitute an Inter-governmental Experts Group composed of medical and pharmaceutical specialists of Member States to meet and prepare a working program to fight this disease in the member States.

5. **Also invites** Member States to devote special attention to highlighting the religious moral values in their educational establishments, their media and their Da'wa fora, as those values are the most effective means to prevent the spread of that pandemic.

6. **Urges** Member States, their relevant national and regional institutions, and international cooperation institutions, in particular the world health Organization (WHO), to set up immediately a mechanism of early warning and control as well as rapid exchange of information on the marketing and import of meat and by-products infected with BSE ("mad cow" disease) and Rift Valley Fever.

7. **Invites** Member States to take strict measures against reprehensible practices on the part of certain food importers and industrialists and to grant urgency and priority to supporting scientific and medical research related to developing agricultural and animal produce so as to achieve food self sufficiency.

8. **Supports** the call for holding a meeting, in the near future, of Member State's Ministers of Health on the subject of epidemic diseases that affect humans through human beings, animals, plants and the environment and welcomes the kind offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host this meeting in Tehran.

9. **Decides** that the mandate of the said Conference also cover the establishment of Inter-Islamic cooperation in the field of health in general, including pharmaceuticals.

10. **Salutes** the Federal Republic of Nigeria for having hosted a summit of African Leaders in April 2000 in Abuja and **calls** for the implementation of its decisions on the scourge of malaria, and **appeals** to all member states, and regional and international organizations, in particular the WHO, to join in the fight for the control and eradication of the malaria epidemic in Africa.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-S&T
ON
DRUG AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCE ABUSES AND THEIR ILLEGAL PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND TRAFFICKING

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conferences and by the 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Control of Narcotics and Drug Abuse;

Expressing its concern at the manufacture and illegal trafficking as well as the widespread abuse of drugs which endanger the health of millions, particularly among young people;

Noting with concern the new dimensions of the ever growing narcotics problem which is threatening the social and economic fabric of the afflicted countries;

Taking into consideration the results achieved by the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the field of drug abuse, including the declaration and comprehensive multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in drug abuse adopted by the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking and the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

Noting with appreciation the Universal Declaration on the Global Programme of Action adopted by the 17th Special Session of the United Nations' General Assembly held in New York, in February 1990, and the Declaration of the London Conference on Control of Cocaine and restriction of drugs in April 1990;

Reaffirming its conviction of the need to supervise the manufacture, trafficking, import and export of drugs and psychotropic substances, in accordance with the 1961 single convention on Narcotic Drugs and the 1988 Convention on Narcotic Drugs against illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances;

Recognizing the importance of taking measures to control drug materials including chemicals and solvents which are used in the manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances, the availability of which has increased their illicit processing;

Reaffirming the guiding principles of the prevailing conventions on narcotics traffic and psychotropic substances as well as the control system;

Realizing the urgent need for Member States and the relevant international organizations to exert concerted and coordinated efforts to eradicate the problem of abuse, trafficking and smuggling of narcotics and psychotropic substances into Islamic countries;

Reviewing the effects of drug abuse and its illegal production, processing and trafficking on Member States;

Recalling that the teachings of the true Islamic religion categorically forbid the use and trafficking in drugs;

Having considered the Secretary-General's Report on the subject;

1. **Requests** the Member States to diligently follow up the guidelines contained in the recommendations made by the OIC Expert Group meeting held from 18 to 20 October 1988 in Istanbul, Turkey, on the effective measures to combat the problem of narcotic drugs in all its aspects and dimensions, including illicit production, processing and trafficking.

2. **Urges** the Member States to coordinate their efforts and harmonize their systems with respect to the licit production and trade of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances within the framework of the relevant international organizations.

3. **Also** urges the Member States to give greater attention to the propagation of religious consciousness and discussion within their respective educational institutions, mass media and Dawa fora on the gravity of the production, use and trafficking in drugs as well as their categorical prohibition from the religious and legal viewpoints.

4. **Welcomes** the measures taken by some Member States to draw attention to the damaging effect of narcotics and affirms the importance of preventive measures including the need for crop/income substitution and accessibility to international markets for substitution products.

5. **Commends** the ISESCO programmes and activities in propagating religious, health, and moral awareness on the gravity of drug production, consumption, and trafficking and calls on it to continue its successful efforts in this context.

6. **Urges** Member States to participate actively in international meetings and symposia in this regard, especially those organized by the United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and Organs and requests the Secretary-General to coordinate with Member States in this area and to cooperate with the UNDCP (United Nations International Drug Control Programme) in Vienna and the commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Economic and Social Commission.

7. **Requests** the Member States to continue to intensify their cooperation and to exchange information and technical expertise to control narcotic drugs.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/31-S&T
ON
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND WAYS AND MEANS OF RESOLVING PROBLEMS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Referring to resolutions No. 35/24-E, 44/27-E, 45/28-E, 6/29-ST, 6/30-ST and 46/9-E(IS), 4/10-ST(IS) adopted respectively by the Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Ninth, Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Acknowledging the close interdisciplinary relationship between the Environment and other developmental sectors including Health;

Considering the importance for Member States to preserve the basic necessities of sustainable development and to continuously assess and monitor their environmental problems and issues including Health;

Affirming that the Member States have to continue their economic growth in order to protect the environment and achieve sustainable development and healthy societies;

Recalling the importance of effective cooperation between OIC and relevant international organization such as UNEP and World Health Organization in the field of "environment and health";

Noting with appreciation the Member States awareness of Environmental issues and active role during and after the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and 19th UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGAS);

Stressing that sustainable development will be achieved only through international cooperation and in particular by implementation of technological and financial commitments of the developed countries envisaged in Agenda 21;

Conscious of the urgent need for the Member States to avail themselves of objectives, independent and unbiased information on their environmental situation and possible remedies that would best serve their interests;

Appreciative of the efforts made by the Secretariat of the OIC, its Subsidiary Organs and the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH);

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having examined the "Tunis declaration" and the recommendations of the "Governmental Experts" Meeting held in Tunis from 27 to 30 March, 2001, in order to make a comprehensive study on the inter-related issues on environment, health and sustained development that serve, in an optimum way, the interests of the Member States, thus establishing closer co-operation between them and the related institutions under the Organization of the Islamic Conference and other international organizations;

1. **Adopts** the "Tunis Declaration" and the recommendations of the "Governmental Experts" Meeting on Environment, Health and Sustained Development, held in Tunis from 27 to 30 March, 2001.

2. **Extends** its most sincere thanks and gratitude to the Tunisian Republic for having kindly accepted to host the Governmental Experts' Meeting on Environment, Health and Sustainable Development. It further commends the pioneering experience of the Tunisian Republic and its achievements in the fields of environment, health and sustainable development, which confirm the relevant and sound choices made by President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali in the social, economic, political and human arenas.

3. **Expresses** its utmost appreciation for the efforts exerted by ISESCO in collaboration with the International Experts Group to prepare and adopt a comprehensive study on environment, health and sustainable development in the Islamic States.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to identify the ways and means to ensure an effective cooperation between OIC, ISESCO, and WHO and active participation of the Organization in WHO's meetings and conferences, follow the implementation of these recommendations and report thereon to the 31th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/31-S&T
ON
THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (COMSTECH)

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling resolution No.13/3-P (IS) of the Third Islamic Summit Conference held at Makkah Al-Mukarramah/Taif, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 19-22 Rabi-ul-Awal, 1401H, corresponding to 25-28 January 1981, establishing a Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and all subsequent resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conferences pertaining to COMSTECH;

Further recalling the resolution No.7/30-ST of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and resolution No.7/10-ST(IS) of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shaaban 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003),

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Notes with appreciation** the ongoing programmes and activities of the COMSTECH for increasing the capability of OIC Member States in the fields of Science and Technology.

2. **Appeals** to Member States and institutions concerned to provide financial support for COMSTECH's programmes and activities by prompt and generous voluntary contributions.

3. **Encourages** and supports the cooperation between the COMSTECH and the Islamic Development Bank for the promotion of Science and Technology in Member States. Expresses appreciation to countries including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Malaysia and Pakistan for the generous voluntary contributions.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/31-S&T
ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Taking note of Resolutions No.33/8-C (IS), 48/9E(IS) and 8/10-ST(IS) adopted by the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Islamic Summit Conferences related to the ratification of the Strategy for Developing Science and Technology in the Islamic Countries;

Having considered resolution 8/10-ST(IS) on the implementation of the strategy for the development of science and technology in Islamic Countries adopted at the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shabaan 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003);

Having considered also the final report and the resolutions of the Second Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research held by ISESCO in Tripoli, Great Jamahiriyyah from 6-9 October, 2003, and the final communiqué of the Second Consultative Council for the implementation of the strategy for the development of science and technology in Islamic countries and having heard the report of ISESCO representative on the above-mentioned conference and meeting;

1. **Urges** the implementation of the Strategy for Developing Science and Technology in the Islamic States, and the revised version of the implementing mechanisms in accordance with the resolutions of the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Riyadh, 15-18 October 2000).

2. **Welcomes** the decision of the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research to entrust ISESCO with supervising and seeing to the implementation of the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in the Islamic countries, and the follow-up of its implementation with the authorities in Member States.

3. **Highly appreciates** the successful efforts of ISESCO and COMSTECH in preparing the final document of the implementation mechanisms of the strategy for the development of science and technology in Islamic Countries.

4. **Calls on** Member States to adopt the general directions of the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in the Islamic Countries and to take the necessary

organizational measures regarding implementation of the Strategy within the framework of their national policies in the fields of science and technology.

5. **Stresses** the importance of implementing the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in the Islamic Countries and its mechanisms for the benefit of, renaissance and advancement of the Muslim Ummah.

6. **Reiterates** the importance of building cooperation in the field of research among Islamic countries, and the importance of acquiring knowledge and skills in the fields of information, communication and technology in order to be abreast of progress and changes in the fields of science and technology.

7. **Urges** Member States and relevant specialized institutions in the Organization of the Islamic Conference to prepare programmes and projects aiming at utilization of exchanged knowledge and the establishment of partnerships in order to enhance scientific research and develop technology in the Islamic countries.

8. **Expresses** its appreciation for the important role being played by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) in cooperation with UNESCO in preparation for the Arab-Islamic Mobile Exhibition for Science and Technology during March 2004 in order to bring into focus the contributions of Arab-Islamic Civilization to Western and human civilization in general and to the building of a lasting culture of peace and dialogue, calls upon all Member States and Islamic Institutions to give their support to ensure the success of this International event.

9. **Appreciates** the holding by ISESCO of the Second meeting of Consultative Council on the implementation of the strategy for the development of science and technology in Islamic Countries, approves the resolutions and recommendations of the Meeting, and invites the Islamic Development Bank to participate in the work of the Council and to finance the scientific technological projects approved by the Council and which would contribute to the realization of comprehensive development in Member States.

10. **Appreciates** the outstanding efforts of the Director and his successful contacts to secure the approval of the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to host the 2nd Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Tripoli, 6-9 September 2003).

11. **Presents** sincere appreciation to the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for its kind acceptance of ISESCO's request to hold the 2nd Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Tripoli, 6-9 September 2003).

12. **Invites** Member States and Arab and Islamic Organisations to double their partnership efforts and to diversify their coordination and consultation mechanisms with ISESCO in the areas of supporting educational programmes and for promoting scientific research in the

Islamic world, ratifies the establishment of the ISESCO Centre for the Promotion of Scientific Research, and urges all Member States to extend all forms of material and technical support to this centre so that it can perform its functions properly and realize its objectives.

13. **Urges** Member States to institute comprehensive and integrated legislative and legal systems to respect the moral controls and the strong foundations in the field of science and technology and their applications as well as efforts to develop and modernize these systems and follow up the implementation of their contents and relevant experiments in accordance with Islamic teachings and international laws and conventions, and endorses the establishment of an Islamic Body for Morality in Science and Technology.

14. **Considers with appreciation and endorses** the two strategic projects on water resources management in the Islamic countries and the strategy to develop a renewal culture and their implementation mechanisms, and calls on Member States and relevant institutions to cooperate with ISESCO and extend material and technical support for their implementation.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take necessary steps to implement these recommendations and present a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/31-S&T
ON
ACTIVITIES OF THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (IUT), DHAKA

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling the resolution No. 9/30-ST of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and resolution NO. 9/10-ST(IS) of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20-21 Shabaan 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003);

Also recalling the recommendations of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Governing Board of the University held in Dhaka, Bangladesh;

Having taken note of the activities report submitted by the Vice-Chancellor of the Islamic University of Technology (IUT);

1. **Welcomes** the august presence during the 17th convocation ceremony of the Islamic University of Technology (IUT) by H.E. Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of the

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and expresses thanks and gratitude to the Government of Bangladesh for extending continuous support to the University in order to fulfil its mandated tasks.

2. **Appreciates** the role which the Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Dhaka is playing for human resources development in the field of Engineering and Technology and Technical and Vocational Education, and approves the modified version of its Statute.

3. **Encourages** the member states for sending their students and trainees to the university that offers long regular courses both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and organizes knowledge and skill upgrading and updating short and special courses, regional and international seminars, workshops, etc. along with technological and industrial research.

4. **Urges** the University to intensify its endeavor to offer courses in the fields of emerging and frontier technologies to equip the youth of the Ummah to face the challenges of the 21st Century matching the needs and demands of the job markets of the Member countries.

5. **Appeals** to Member States to make voluntary contributions, in addition to mandatory ones, to help further deepen and widen its activities so as to achieve further heights of success in the days ahead and serve the Ummah better.

6. **Calls upon** IUT to contact the Ministries of Higher Education of the Member States to disseminate information regarding the admission and other opportunities available in the University among their potential students.

7. **Encourages** the university to further strengthen its efforts to extend bilateral cooperation with higher seats of learning around the world and interact actively with national, regional, and international educational organizations and associations.

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to implement these recommendations and present a report thereon to the 32nd Session Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/31-S&T
ON
THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH CONFERENCES OF PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (COP6)

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling resolution 10/10-ST(IS) of the Tenth Summit, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shaaban 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003), and resolution No. 10/30-ST of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran;

Taking note of the surprising and preoccupying decision of the United States of America as to leaving the Kyoto Protocol on Climatic Changes after having signed it;

Expresses its deep concern for the questioning by the United States of America of the great accomplishment for the protection of the environment against the detrimental effects against green effects ensued by the Kyoto Protocol;

Expressing its concern for the deterioration of the world environment including increasing environmental pollution and the depletion of natural resources;

Reaffirming the right of every individual to enjoy a healthy unpolluted environment;

Referring to the 1992 Agreement on Climatic Change adopted in New York and the 1998 Kyoto Protocol adopted in Japan;

Noting the importance of the negotiations which took place during the Sixth and Seventh Conferences of Parties to the Framework on Convention Climate Change, as well as their impact on Islamic States;

1. **Again, urges** industrial countries to honour their obligations under the convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

2. **Emphasizes** the importance of effective participation of Islamic States in conferences and meetings related to the convention on Climate Change with delegations comprising specialists in all areas relevant to such conference.

3. **Emphasizes** the need to reiterate the demand for unanimity in adopting fundamental matters.

4. **Emphasizes** the need for the Eighth Conference of Parties to the Convention to adopt effective measures on implementing paras 8 and 9 of Article 4 of the Convention and Para 14 of Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol with a mandatory and not optional status. To that end, it is necessary to adopt the following measures (which have been adopted by the G77 and China):

(a) For industrial countries to restructure their tax systems to reflect levels of green house effect for all sources of gas emission, in addition to abolishing assistance to a number of energy sources, such as coal in industrial countries.

(b) For industrial countries not to encourage increased local and regional production of fossil fuels, including oil, as such increases in production would be at the expense of their related imports from our developing countries.

(c) To remove all obstacles standing in the way of oil use and imports, particularly in the field of electrical energy generation.

(d) To assist our developing countries, including those whose national revenues depend to a large extent on oil exports, to diversify their economies by encouraging investment, the transfer of modern technologies, and the compensation of developing countries adversely affected by environmental policies adopted by industrial countries.

5. **Emphasizes** that the Conference of Parties to the Protocol should monitor the implementation by the industrial countries of these measures through an annual review of their national reports, which must cover progress made on the application of the above-mentioned points. This has been stipulated in Article 7 of the Protocol on reports and Article 8 on Report Reviews.

6. **Stresses** the need not to agree to an amalgamation of paras 8 and 9 of Article 4 of the Agreement with para 14 of Article 3 of the Protocol into one resolution. The two resolutions must be kept separate because of the different nature of each of the Articles in terms of mandatory status and the responsibility of industrial countries described in Appendix I of the Agreement within the context of para 14 of Article 3; and because the process and mechanisms for implementing the agreement are different from those for implementing the Protocol.

7. **Emphasizes** the need not to subject developing countries to new obligations related to limiting their emissions, whether on a mandatory or voluntary basis and not to determine a time schedule for any negotiations regarding such obligations.

8. **Supports** the demands related to providing financial and technical assistance to developing countries and creating distinct funds for the purpose, in addition to existing

financial means. It calls for a commitment from industrial countries to allocate specific financial sums to these funds on a regular basis.

9. **Calls** for the implementation of all the items in the 1998 Buenos Aires Plan of Action through effective, mandatory measures attached to each item.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/31-S&T
ON
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE

The Twenty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling resolution 11/10-ST(IS) of the Tenth Summit, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 20 to 21 Shaban 1424H (16-17 October 2003), and resolution 11/30-ST of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran;

Having taken note, with satisfaction, of the results of the First International Forum on the Environment From an Islamic Perspective held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 26 - 28 Rajab 1421H (23-25 October 2000);

Having considered the Jeddah Declaration on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective adopted by the Forum;

Having considered and adopted the Islamic Declaration on Sustainable Development issued by the First Islamic Conference of Environment;

Having considered the report by the representative of ISESCO on its participation at the Summit Conference on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa from 26 August to 4 September 2002;

1. **Highly appreciates** the outstanding participation of ISESCO in the proceedings of the Summit Conference on Sustainable Development, characterized by the Organisation of Meetings and specialized scientific elements and the putting up of an International Exhibition on Renewable Energy, launched by the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Director General of ISESCO.

2. **Commends** the initiative by ISESCO to publish a reference book on environmental conditions and Sustainable Development in the Islamic World (Peculiarities, Challenges and Obligations), adopted as part of the official documents of the Johannesburg Conference, also commends the contents of the book and its distribution by ISESCO to leaders of the Islamic world, concerned bodies in Member States, and/relevant international, regional and Islamic Organisations.

3. **Invites** the organizers of the First International Forum on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective to hold such from on a regular basis and to adopt the appropriate mechanisms to that end.

4. **Expresses** appreciation of the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, its specialized institutions, the UNEP and the ISESCO for convening, preparing and organizing the First International Forum on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective.

5. **Expresses** its profound gratitude and appreciation to ISESCO for successfully preparing an integrative work programme and an Islamic Declaration on sustainable Development in South Africa in 2002 as working document representing the Arab-Islamic perspective on the environment and development, within the framework of Jeddah and Abu Dhabi Declarations on the environment and the Islamic Declaration on Sustainable Development, and **commends** its coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, the League of Arab States, the UNEP Regional Bureau in Bahrain and the Department of Meteorology and Protection of the Environment in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia towards the preparation of this programme.

6. **Highly appreciates** the contacts made by the Director General of ISESCO with Member States to secure their hosting of the 2nd International Forum on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective in 2004.

7. **Thanks** the Islamic Republic of Iran for gracefully accepting to host the second International Forum on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective in 2004.

8. **Commissions** ISESCO to continue to make the necessary contacts with the competent authorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran to determine the final date of the Second International Forum on the Environment from an Islamic Perspective, during 2004 to make the final arrangements for the forum.

9. **Expresses** deep appreciation for the successful efforts made by the Director General of ISESCO and the Director General of the Department of Meteorology and Environmental Protection to hold the First Islamic Conference of Environment Ministers hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Jeddah 10-12 June 2002) and **commends** the excellent organization of the Conference and the excellent quality of its working documents.

10. **Adopts** the Islamic Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Final communiqué and resolutions of the Conference and the general framework of the Islamic Work Programme

on Sustainable Development and **entrusts** ISESCO with following up the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the First Islamic Conference of Environment Ministers.

11. **Appreciates** the successful efforts made by the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Director General of ISESCO and the Chairman of the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Environment to stimulate the efforts of Member States and to coordinate and enhance the participation of the Islamic World in the International Summit Conference on Sustainable Development (26 August 4 September 2002), in conjunction with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), efforts which have enabled the inclusion of the Jeddah Declaration and the general framework of the Islamic Work Programme on Sustainable Development in the documents of the Johannesburg Summit.

12. **Welcomes** Resolution NO. 265/57 adopted by the Fifty-seventh Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on the creation of an International Solidarity Fund for Combating Poverty and fostering human development in developing countries, an initiative of H.E. President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia **and Calls** the UN to implement this resolution, the Fund being a mechanism for eradication of poverty in countries mostly in need.

13. **Expresses** its gratitude to the Great Jamahiriyah for its kind offer to host the Second Islamic Conference for Ministers of Environment, in April 2005 and mandates ISESCO to hold the Conference in cooperation with the General Secretariat of the OIC.

14. **Expresses** thanks and deep gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, His Highness Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, the Second Deputy Prime Minister, Emir Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, His Highness Emir Abdulrahman ibn Abdul Aziz, Deputy Defence and Aviation Minister and Inspector General, and His Highness Emir Turki Ibn Naif Ibn Abdul Aziz, Director General of the Department of Meteorology and Environmental Protection for the successful hosting of the First Islamic Conference of Environment Ministers by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 12/31-S&T
ON
AN ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTER IN BANGLADESH

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers(Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling resolution No.12/10-ST(IS) of the Tenth Islamic Summit held in Putrajaya, Malaysia and resolution No.12/30-ST of Thirtieth Session of the Foreign Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran;

Recognizing the need for the Muslim Ummah to have an Advanced Medical Training and Research Centre;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. Has studied the proposal for an Advanced Medical Training and Research Center in Bangladesh.

2. Has not been able to reach consensus on the proposed Center.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/31-S&T
ON
THE VOLUNTARY ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmany) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004),

Having considered the proposal of His Excellency President Pervez Musharraf, Chairman COMSTECH, to set up Pan Islamic Fund for the Development of Science and Technology in the Muslim World;

Recalling resolution 15 of the COMSTECH General Assembly held during 16-18 February 2002 calling for the establishment of this Fund;

Taking into account the Thirtieth ICFM and the Tenth Islamic Summit resolutions on the subjects related to S&T, especially the resolutions 1/10-S&T, 2/10-S&T, 3/10-S&T, 4/10-S&T, 5/10-S&T, 6/10-S&T, 7/10-S&T, 8/10-S&T, 9/10-S&T, 10/10-S&T, 11/10-S&T, 12/10-S&T, 13/10-S&T and 14/10-S&T;

Having examined the COMSTECH document describing Pan Islamic Fund for the Development of Science and Technology in the Muslim World;

Prompted by strong desire to give a fresh impetus to the development of Science and Technology infrastructure in the OIC Member States;

Calls upon the OIC Member States to voluntarily establish major national funds in their respective countries for the following objectives:

1. To strengthen the national science and technology programmes in various important fields.

2. To strengthen collaboration among Islamic countries in various fields of science and technology including the establishment of Centers of Excellence in their respective countries in collaboration with COMSTECH.

3. To continue to examine the possibility of establishing a voluntary Pan-Islamic Fund as proposed by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/31-S&T
ON
GLOBAL COOPERATION IN POLIO ERADICATION PROGRAMME AMONG OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference on Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26 to 28 Rabiul Al-Thani 1425 (14-16 June 2004),

Recalling the Resolution adopted by the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the Tenth Session of the |Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 20 to 21 Shaaban 1424H (16 to 17 October 2003);

Recalling the principles stipulated on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World as adopted by the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers under Resolution No. 13/30-C;

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic countries suffer as a result of diseases from which they may be protected;

Acknowledging that the world is on the verge of eradicating polio, and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, since 1988, has succeeded in reducing the number of annual polio cases by 99 percent;

Recognizing the significant progress made by the OIC Member States to eradicate polio within their countries;

Noting with appreciation that almost all the OIC Member States are polio-free;

Observing that a few Member States are still to eradicate the polio virus; and that the polio virus is spreading from these countries and has re-infected seven OIC Member Countries;

Noting with concern that the polio virus has been imported to polio-free States, and thus placed at risk to a total of twenty-one West and Central African countries of which eighteen are OIC Member States;

1. **Strongly affirms** its commitment to the eradication of polio from all OIC Member States so that they can contribute effectively to the goal of Global Polio Eradication.

2. **Urges** all OIC Member States to allocate the necessary domestic resources to ensure that all children are protected from this crippling disease.

3. **Urgently calls** on the international community, Member States and Philanthropic organizations including in particular those in the Islamic world to provide the resources necessary to,

a) eradicate polio from all OIC Member States by 2005,

b) **Urgently** protect children in the twenty-one West and Central African countries at risk of a major polio epidemic in 2004.

Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this recommendation and submit a report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex VIII

Resolutions on information affairs

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RESOLUTION No. 1/31-INF
ON THE
ROLE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION IN PROMOTING THE JUST CAUSES AND IMAGE OF ISLAM

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolutions No. 69/9-P (IS) and No. 1/10-INF (IS) on COMIAC adopted by the Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference respectively, which approved the resolutions of the Sixth and Seventh Sessions of COMIAC;

Recalling also Resolution No. 1/30-INF adopted by the 30th Session of the ICFM held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 27 to 29 Rabiul Thani 1424H (28-30 June 2003) on the Role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of Islam;

Considering all the resolutions of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003);

Expressing deep concern over the misuse of the media to distort the image of Islam and Muslims and citizens of the OIC Member States under the pretext of combating terrorism;

Emphasizing that the dangers of such media campaigns are further exacerbated by certain political elements which openly discriminate against Muslim communities or citizens of OIC Member States;

Commending the measures proposed by the Secretary-General to activate the sector of information and communication so that it may play its true role in promoting the just Islamic causes and the glorious image of Islam and calling on Member States to contribute to the crystallization of the above-mentioned measures and their enrichment with expertise from their own Information Organs, particularly those that seek to project the tolerant and true image of Islam and Muslims following the media campaigns resulting from the 11 September 2001 events;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary-General on the role of information and communication in promoting the just causes and image of Islam;

1. **Condemns** the persistent and erroneous linkage between Islam and terrorism, such as changing the designation of "war against terrorists" to that of "war against Islamists" in some Western print, audio-visual, and electronic media; and calls on the Member States to undertake information activities to counter these propaganda.

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General:

a) **To use** his activities and visits to highlight the Member States' deep concern over the propaganda waged by some media organs around the world to distort the image of Islam and defame the citizens of the OIC Member States;

b) **To work** with donor states that have the requisite means to mobilize contributions to the resources of the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC).

3. **Calls on** Member States—according to their respective means—to contribute the resources of the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC) with the aim of upgrading the media of countries in need of such modernization so that these media can assume their role in promoting the just causes of the Islamic Ummah. In order to do so, funds should be earmarked to finance projects submitted by information institutions, particularly those approved for funding by the 6th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) and its Ministerial Follow-up Committee.

4. **Requests** the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), during its next session, to extend financial assistance to projects submitted under the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC) to upgrade the Islamic media, particularly the two projects submitted by Sierra Leone and Mali respectively, in pursuance of Resolution No. 3/6-ICIM adopted by the Sixth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/31-INF ON THE INFORMATION PLAN AND FUNDING PROBLEMS THEREOF

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolutions No. 70/9-P (IS); 29/10-INF (IS); and 2/30-INF adopted respectively by the 9th and 10th Islamic Summit Conferences, and the 30th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Information Plan of the OIC Member States;

Recalling also the resolution adopted by the 7th Session of COMIAC held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 Shawwal 1423H (December 18-19, 2002) on the funding and implementation of the Information Plan;

Also recalling the Member States' pledges and commitments in the context of their cooperation to build an adequate communications network to lessen the deficiency in the flow of Information in the Islamic world on the one hand, and to create a specific Information Order designed to affirm national and cultural identities while countering the hostile campaigns targeting Islam and Muslims, on the other;

Inspired by the resolutions adopted by the 6th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM), held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003);

Recalling the request made by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference to the Secretary-General to make direct contacts with the Member States in order to confirm Information-Plan programs that they may implement and to engage in coordination with them with a view to obtaining from them the necessary voluntary contributions to implement the Information Plan as a whole;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the OIC Secretary-General on the Role of Information and Communication in promoting the just causes of Islam, as well as the Report of the Secretary-General on implementing the Work Program for the financial year 2003-2004 derived from the Information Plan and attached to this Resolution;

1. **Reiterates the need** for Member States to strongly support the Information Plan and make effective contributions to it in order to ensure its success.

2. **Urges** Member States that have not done so:

(a) To pledge their financial, technical, and material contributions for the implementation of the said Plan.

(b) To implement the annual program derived from the Information Plan (See Document attached to this Resolution).

3. **Calls on** Member States:

a) **To incorporate** individually or in cooperation amongst themselves, some of the operations of the Information Plan in their national programs and to seek to implement them;

b) **To contribute** to the funding of OIC activities in the fields of Information and Communication, particularly by settling the arrears of their contributions and making voluntary contributions to the budget of the General Secretariat in order to enable it to make up on delays in implementing the Plan. The States are also called upon to proceed with the financing of other operations of the Plan.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to make direct contacts with the Member States to confirm programs scheduled in the Information Plan which they may take upon themselves to cover; and also to coordinate with the Member States to mobilize the grants and voluntary donations necessary for the implementation of the entire Information Plan.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 3/31- INF
ON
UPDATING THE MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ISLAMIC INFORMATION STRATEGY INCLUDING THE ISLAMIC SATELLITE

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Referring to the general conception of the Islamic Information Strategy adopted by the First Islamic Conference of Information Ministers in Jeddah, in 1988;

Recalling Resolutions No. 3/3-ICIM and No. 13/3-ICIM of the Third Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers on the Information Strategy of Islamic States and its Implementation Mechanisms;

Referring to Resolutions No. 1/5 and 2/5 adopted by the 5th Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), on 8-9 Dhul Quida 1417H (27-28 March 1996), which adopted the Islamic Information Strategy and its Implementation Mechanisms; as well as Resolution No. 1/7 of the 7th Session of COMIAC held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 Shawwal 1423H (18-19 December 2002);

Referring also to Resolution No. 1/6 adopted by the Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003) on implementing the Mechanisms of the Information Strategy of the OIC Member States;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Information Strategy of the OIC Member States and upgrading its Implementation Mechanisms;

1. **Invites** Member States anew to take the necessary steps to incorporate the Islamic Information Strategy into their information policies.

2. **Appeals** to the Member States to extend human, material, and technological assistance to the two information institutions involved in Islamic information, namely the International Islamic News Agency (IINA), and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO), to enable them to achieve the objectives of the Strategy, in accordance with the provisions of the resolution adopted by the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003).

3. **Requests** the Member States to use all available media, including satellites and new communication technologies, and to coordinate action among public and private space television channels in Member States; between those channels and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO); between those channels and the national news agencies of the Member States; and between those channels and the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) with a view to securing for them a better presence in the international information space.

4. **Requests** the Member States to coordinate their efforts in order to promote the project of the Islamic Satellite in order to keep abreast of current developments.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 4/31-INF
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY (IINA)

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Having considered the Report of the OIC Secretary-General on the Role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of the Islamic Ummah and Projecting the True Image of Islam, and having also considered his Preliminary Report on the OIC institutions specialized in the field of information and the Activity Report of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA);

Taking note with satisfaction of the Resolution of the Seventh Session of COMIAC, which calls for the need to support IINA as a specialized institution and as a mechanism entrusted with implementing joint Islamic information action programs;

Having taken note of the resolutions of the 6th Session of COMIAC held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10 and 11 March 2003);

Having taken note of IINA's efforts to extend and diversify the scope of its activities by publishing books and bulletins on current events in the Islamic world, or by publishing journalistic reports and investigations on Member States—despite the financial, technical, and journalism-related difficulties faced by IINA—through regular reporting on IINA's website: www.islamicnews.org;

Expressing its deep concern over the lack of commitment of some Member States to paying their contributions to IINA's budget;

Expressing its gratitude and appreciation to the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its consistent support for IINA, and to the Member States that have contributed to IINA financially, morally, or with manpower thus enabling it to pursue its information mission;

1. **Reiterates its calls** to the Member States to settle their annual contributions and arrears to IINA's budget to enable it to fulfil its mission, particularly with reference to the implementation of the Work Program defined by Resolution No. 6/7-ICIM of the 6th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM).

2. **Urges** Member States to support IINA through the following:

   2.1 *By providing it with staff in editorial and technical fields to enable it to achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information.*

   2.2 *By supplying it with news and information on Islamic activities and development programs.*

   2.3 *By enriching its daily newsletters published on the Internet.*

   2.4 *By urging national agencies and radio and television networks to benefit from IINA's newscasts.*

3. **Commends** IINA's efforts in publishing its magazine "Al-Islamiyya", **urges** it to enrich this magazine with more diversified information and reports on the Islamic world; and further **urges** IINA to activate its internet website, and to strengthen its relations with regional federations of news agencies around the world, whether they be Arab, African, or Asian news agencies, and with the Mediterranean News Agencies Federation.

4. **Calls on** IINA's Director-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 5/31-INF
ON THE
ISLAMIC STATES BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION (ISBO)

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on the role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of the Islamic Ummah and Projecting the True Image of Islam and **having also considered** his Preliminary Report on the OIC institutions specialized in the field of information and the Report of the Secretary-General of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) on the latter's activities, projects, and work plans;

Taking note with satisfaction of the resolution adopted by COMIAC–VII on supporting ISBO as a specialized institution and as one of the mechanisms entrusted with carrying out joint Islamic information action programs;

Also taking note with satisfaction of ISBO's achievements in the service of Islamic Da'wa, the dissemination of the Arabic language, the exchange of programs, and the defense of Islamic causes;

Having taken cognizance of the resolutions of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM), held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003);

Expressing its thanks and appreciation to the Member States that have paid their contributions to ISBO's budget and that continue to extend their material and moral support, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Arab Republic of Egypt;

Deeply preoccupied by the accumulating arrears of contributions owed by a large number of Member States to ISBO's budget:

1. **Calls on** the Member States concerned to pay their contributions fully and regularly to ISBO's annual budget and to speed up the payment of their arrears to enable ISBO to carry on its activities normally, particularly with reference to the implementation of the Work Program defined by Resolution No. 6/6-ICIM of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM).

2. **Calls on** Radio and Television Institutions of the Member States to coordinate and cooperate with ISBO to make a success of the Second Edition of the International Festival of

Radio and TV Producers, which is to be held—hopefully—during the year 2004 in the hospitality of one of the Member States.

3. **Calls on** ISBO to publish "a guide of television productions" for the Member States in cooperation and coordination with them.

4. **Requests** ISBO's Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 6/31-INF ON THE MEMBER STATES' PARTICIPATION IN STAGE II OF THE WORLD SUMMIT OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY IN THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA IN 2005

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Referring to the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 56th and 57th Sessions on the holding of a World Summit on the Information Society in two stages: Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005;

Based on Resolution No. 4/10-INF (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the World Summit on the Information Society and the participation of the Member States therein, particularly in Stage II, due to be held in the Republic of Tunisia from 6 to 18 November 2005;

Recalling Resolution No. 75/28-P adopted by the 28th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Bamako, Republic of Mali, on 25-27 June 2001 as well as Resolution No. 6/29-INF of the 29th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan, on 14-16 Rabiul Thani 1423H (25-27 June 2002), and Resolution No. 6/30-INF adopted by the 30th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 27-29 Rabiul Awwal 1424H (28-30 May 2003);

Recalling also Resolution No. 3/7-INF (COMIAC) of the 7th Session of COMIAC held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 Shawwal 1423H (18-19 December 2002);

Recalling further Resolution No. 4/6-ICIM issued by the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003) on the Information Society;

Underlining the importance of Stage II of the World Summit on the Information Society, which is to be held in Tunis (on 16-18 November 2005) and the importance of integrating the two phases of this Summit as interrelated stages in the examination of optimal ways to bridge the digital divide between the developing countries and industrial ones, while keeping sight of the impact of the information society on economic, social, and cultural development;

1. **Invites** all the OIC Member States to participate actively in the preparatory work for the second stage of this Summit in order to ensure that its proceedings will be crowned with an effective partnership plan to establish a balanced and shared information society.

2. **Affirms** the importance of the General Secretariat's contribution of coordination among OIC Member States in order to make good preparation for and participate extensively and efficiently in the preparatory work for the Tunis Summit.

3. **Urges** the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the 6th ICIM to prepare, at its next meeting in 2004, a vision of an information society charter, and a plan of action to be presented on behalf of Member States at the second phase of the World Summit on Information Society (Tunis 2005). Delegations of this Committee's members should include experts in new ICTS and internet systems.

4. **Affirms** the pivotal role played by the private sector and civil society in formulating visions and developing practical resolutions in order to bridge the digital divide, and urges all governmental and civil parties in the Member States to contribute actively in defining the trends and axes of the Tunis Summit.

5. **Calls on** the OIC Member States to make the Tunis Summit a significant stage in the construction of a balanced and equitable information society, and to work to crown their proceedings with a declaration with a practical content and a solidarity dimension, as well as with practicable mechanisms and tools that would achieve a real international and regional digital partnership capable of strengthening the noble goals of the Millennium Declaration.

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex IX

Resolutions on legal affairs

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RESOLUTION No. 1/31-LEG
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC COURT OF JUSTICE AND COOPERATION AMONG ISLAMIC STATES IN THE JUDICIAL FIELD

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004).

Recalling Resolution No. 12/5-P (IS) of the Fifth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference regarding the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice as a fourth principal organ in the OIC;

Wishing to speed up the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice and the commencement of its work so that it may contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes among Member States;

Mindful of the importance of Resolution No. 59/9-P (IS) adopted by the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference on the Islamic Court of Justice:

1. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Member States that have ratified the Statute of the Court and the amendment of Article (3) of the Charter involving the addition of a fourth paragraph (d) concerning the International Islamic Court of Justice.

2. **Urges** the Member States that have not yet ratified the Statute of the Court and the amendment of the Charter to accelerate the completion of the ratification procedure and to deposit their instruments of ratification at the General Secretariat as soon as possible, so that the quorum needed for the Court to become operational may be attained.

3. **Calls for** continued coordination and consultation between the State of Kuwait (the Headquarters State) and the General Secretariat in order to pursue optimal ways and means to accelerate the establishment and functioning of the Court.

4. **Invites** the Secretary-General to continue intensive contacts and consultations with Member States aimed at expediting the attainment of the necessary quorum of ratifications for establishing the Court and ensuring the commencement of its work.

5. **Also invites** the Member States and the General Secretariat to make every effort to raise education and awareness of the relevance of the Court, and its objectives and of the need for its establishment and functioning as an optional judiciary means to settle conflicts peacefully.

6. **Calls on** the Member States to consider promoting ways and means of cooperation among themselves in the judicial field and relevant research and studies.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/31-LEG ON THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE CAIRO DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISLAM

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the noble motives and objectives of the glorious religion of Islam, which emphasizes the importance of human rights; and mindful of the universality and integral nature of Islamic laws on human rights and the prominent place of Man;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all people without distinction as to race, sex, or religion;

Recalling Resolution No. 49/19-P of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopting and issuing the document entitled "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam"; as well as subsequent resolutions the latest of which was Resolution No. 2/30-LEG of the 30th ICFM on the Follow-up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam;

Recognizing the necessity of expediting the follow-up of the Cairo Declaration, as guidelines for Member States, by taking concrete and practical measures now that 14 years have elapsed since its adoption;

Aware of the prevailing international circumstances and the necessity of strengthening the existing mechanism within the OIC for exploring ways and means to promote and protect human rights through, *inter alia*, the formulation of a set of Islamic covenants on human rights;

Recognizing the obligations and endeavors of the Member States to promote and protect internationally recognized human rights while taking into account the significance of their religious, national, and regional specificities and various historical and cultural backgrounds, and with due regard to the "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam":

1. **Welcomes** the unanimous decision of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to issue the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam as general guidelines for Member States in the field of human rights.

2. **Recognizes** the importance of following up the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and **calls once again** upon the Intergovernmental Expert Group, in accordance with its mandate and pursuant to the principles enshrined in the Cairo Declaration, to start the formulation and consideration of Islamic charters on human rights which shall take the form of covenants, each of which shall deal with one or several issues in detail based on the provisions of the Declaration. These issues are to be considered in special meetings in preparation for recommending their submission to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

3. **Encourages** Member States to support and facilitate the realization of the mandate of the Intergovernmental Expert Group through, *inter alia*, convening, in Member States and Non-Member States and in collaboration with the General Secretariat, seminars and workshops on human rights in Islam.

4. **Calls upon** Member States to continue their active coordination and cooperation in the field of human rights particularly in the relevant international forums in order to strengthen Islamic solidarity against any initiative that may lead to the use of human rights as a means of political pressure on any Member State.

5. **Takes note of** the report of the Seventh Meeting of the Intergovernmental Expert Group on the follow-up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, **approves** proposals and recommendations made therein, **invites** the Expert Group to continue its work on a regular basis; and **also invites** the Member States to participate in the work of this Group on the highest level possible, and to consider the preliminary formulation of the Draft Covenant on the Rights of the Child in Islam, preparatory to submitting it to the ICFM.

6. **Calls for** continuation of the work of the Sub-Committee on Drafting International Covenants for Human Rights in Islam.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 3/31-LEG
ON
COORDINATION AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter and the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, of promoting, encouraging, and ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with Islamic values and teachings, as well as the United Nations Charter, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant instruments;

Commending the constructive ideas contained in the Doha Declaration adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Doha on 16-17 Shaaban 1421H (12-13 November 2000);

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter and the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers the most recent of which were Resolutions No. 3/10-LEG (IS) and No. 3/30-LEG; as well as international conventions and declarations, particularly those calling for the respect of human rights, namely political, social, cultural, and economic rights and religious freedoms;

Mindful of the universality and integral nature of Islamic values with respect to human rights, the prominent place of Man in Islam as vicegerent of Allah on earth and hence the great importance attached by Islamic thought to the promotion, encouragement, and respect of human rights;

Further recalling the Commission on Human Rights' Resolutions No. 82/1999 of 20 April 1999 and No. 84/2000 of 26 April 2000 entitled "defamation of religions" which expressed deep concern over the negative stereotyping of religions and at the way Islam is frequently and wrongly associated with human rights violations and with terrorism, and which also expressed concern over the space devoted by the printed, audio-visual, and electronic media to inciting violence, xenophobia, or related intolerance and discrimination towards Islam and other religions;

Aware that the increasing importance of human rights in every part of the world requires more intensified efforts from the Islamic Ummah and Islamic Organizations in order to take appropriate initiatives at all levels toward the consolidation and protection of human rights;

Reaffirming the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of all human rights and also the importance of promotion and protection of human rights through cooperation and consensus and not through confrontation and the imposition of incompatible, alien and inhomogeneous values;

Noting the attempts to exploit the issue of human rights to discredit the principles and rules of Islamic Shariah and to interfere in the affairs of Islamic States;

Stressing the need for active international cooperation for the effective realization of the right to development;

Emphasizing the necessity of enhancement of international cooperation for elimination of the obstacles before realization of the right to development including unilateral coercive measures and their negative impact on the enjoyment of this right;

1. **Reiterates** the need for continued consultation and coordination among Member States in the field of human rights, especially during international conferences and meetings on the subject.

2. **Emphasizes** the need for cooperation and coordination among Member States for enhancement of their participation in formulation and codification of international human rights instruments based on Islamic Sharia.

3. **Endorses** the efforts of the delegates of OIC Member States in Geneva to highlight the concerns of the Islamic Countries regarding the defamation of Islam and to take common positions on issues of direct interest to them in the UN human rights bodies.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to convey OIC positions on the different human rights issues, especially in respect of minorities, to the UN Human Rights organs and agencies, in particular their Special Representatives and Rapporteurs with a view to furthering OIC positions on human rights at the U.N.

5. **Commends** the initiative taken by the Islamic Group in Geneva to counter the "Defamation of Islam" as reflected in Resolutions 82/1999 (20 April, 1999) and 84/2000 (26 April, 2000) adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on "Defamation of Religions" and encourages the Group to continue its efforts in this respect with the aim of seriously implementing these two resolutions.

6. **Decides** that the General Secretariat and the Member States shall undertake to follow up Member States' missions with the relevant international organizations, in particular, at the UN headquarters in New York and Geneva, and to hold meetings on appropriate occasions, to consider and discuss human rights issues with a view to adopting a unified position among Member States vis-à-vis campaigns and draft resolutions that target OIC Member States in relevant international fora.

7. **Reaffirms** the need to keep abreast of economic and social developments without being remiss in supporting and respecting human rights. It also reaffirms its rejection of the attempt to impose economic starvation and deprivation on the peoples and countries of the Islamic world in any way, shape, or form.

8. **Calls for** the necessary vigilance and caution towards any attempts at misrepresenting or purposefully discrediting the Islamic Shariah.

9. **Denounces** media campaigns and fabrications made by some quarters in non-Member States regarding the treatment of non-Muslim minorities and communities in the OIC Member States under the slogan of religious freedoms and so on.

10. **Encourages** the OIC Member States Missions in Geneva to pursue coordination on human rights and make a collective statement every year at the UN Commission of Human Rights and its sub-Committee on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights presenting the position of the OIC Member States on Human Rights.

11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 4/31-LEG
ON
SLANDER CAMPAIGNS WAGED BY CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) AGAINST A NUMBER OF OIC MEMBER STATES AND THE ISLAMIC SHARIA UNDER THE SLOGAN OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling Resolution No. 49/19-P of the 19th ICFM on adopting and ratifying a document titled "The Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam," aimed at fostering, promoting, and respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, proceeding from the values and tenets of Islam, the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the United Nations (UN) as well as the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other relevant instruments;

Recalling also the OIC resolutions on the follow-up of the "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam," "coordination among member states in the field of human rights", and drafting Islamic covenants on human rights, the latest of these resolutions being Resolutions No. 2/30-LEG and No. 3/30-LEG.

Referring to OIC Resolution No. 70/27-P and the two Resolutions No. 82/1999 and 84/2000 of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, at its 55th and 56th sessions regarding the ways and means to deal with "the Defamation of Religions" as well as OIC resolutions, the most recent of which was Res. No. 4/10-LEG (IS) on the Slanderous Campaigns Waged by Certain NGOs Against a Number of OIC Member States and Targeting the Islamic Sharia Under the Slogan of Human Rights Protection;

Affirming that discrimination against human beings on account of their religion or creed is an insult to the dignity of humankind;

Welcoming the paragraphs on human rights matters contained in the Final Communiqué of the Meeting of NAM Foreign Ministers, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in February 2003;

Stressing the importance of fostering greater harmony and more tolerance within and among all societies; and aware of the importance of education for ensuring tolerance and respect of religion and creed;

Expressing its appreciation, in this regard, of the joint efforts exerted by the OIC Member States and the UN High Commission on Human Rights which organized a symposium under the theme "Enriching the Universality of Human Rights: The Universal Declaration on Human Rights From an Islamic Perspective," in Geneva, November 9-10, 1998 followed by a second symposium under the theme of "Human Rights in Islam" in Geneva on 14-15 March 2002;

Cognizant of the important role played by some Governmental and Nongovernmental Organizations working in Human Rights;

1. **Asserts** that human rights are universal in nature and must be considered in the context of dynamic and evolving process of international norm-setting, bearing in mind the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds.

2. **Stresses** the necessity to respect the Islamic Sharia, in the United Nations' documentation.

3. **Expresses** its deep concern over the frequent and erroneous association of Islam with violations of human rights and the misuse of the printed and audio-visual media in propagating such misconceptions and calls on the Member States to undertake information activities to counter these activities.

4. **Denounces** the resolution of the European Union on condemning the Stoning Punishment, and other so-called inhuman punishments, practiced by a number of Member States in the course of applying the Sharia rules; and **calls for** a halt of the unjustified

campaigns launched by some Governmental and Nongovernmental Organizations against a number of Member States, focusing on the demand to abolish the Shari'a ordained punishments and other penalties under the "protection of human rights" slogan.

5. **Requests** the Islamic Groups in Geneva and New York to unify their positions towards rejecting all resolutions that oppose punishments stipulated under the Islamic Sharia.

6. **Calls on** the OIC Groups on Human Rights in Geneva and New York to highlight the concerns of the Islamic countries regarding the worsening situation of Muslims in western countries since the terrorist acts of 11 September 2001 and also restrictive laws and practices against Muslim women.

7. **Invites** Member States to direct their representatives in countries of the European Union to explain the positions taken by their countries regarding punishments stipulated under the Islamic Sharia.

8. **Stresses** the need to respect the Islamic Sharia, domestic laws and legislations of all Islamic States.

9. **Reaffirms** the right of states to adhere to their religious, social, and cultural specificities which constitute a heritage and streams of thought that contribute towards enriching the common international conceptions of human rights.

10. **Reasserts** that the right of societies to abide by their own specificities and indigenous values that distinguish them does not mean cultural alienation or introversion, no more than it is a pretext to renege on their international commitments.

11. **Recalls** anew the states' right to reserve, where necessary, the right to express reservations on the international conventions, covenants, and agreements they subscribe to, as part of their sovereign rights.

12. **Calls for** the necessity to consider human rights in their global conception and in all their civil, political, social, economic, and cultural facets within the framework of international cooperation and solidarity.

13. **Also calls for** abstaining from using the universality of human rights as a pretext to interfere in the states' internal affairs and undermine their national sovereignty.

14. **Emphasizes** the necessity for the international community to address the issue of human rights issue on an objective and indivisible basis, as far as all states are concerned, without selectivity or discrimination.

15. **Exhorts** all states to take all appropriate measures, in the context of their national legislations and in line with international human rights instruments, to promote understanding, tolerance, and respect in matters connected with freedom of religion or creed.

16. **Calls, once again, on** the OIC Member States Missions in Geneva to work to ensure that the reports of the UN Special Rapporteurs on human rights take into consideration the provisions of the present resolution when submitting such reports to the coming sessions of the UN Human Rights Commission.

17. **Expresses deep concern over** the activities of certain Governmental and Nongovernmental Organizations which are supported by governments that use them to attack OIC Member States for political purposes and to further their foreign policy objectives in international forums, especially the Commission on Human Rights and its Subsidiary Organs; and **urges** OIC Member States to coordinate in order to discourage such activities.

18. **Calls on** Member States to encourage their Governmental and Nongovernmental Organizations to play an effective role in this context.

19. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 5/31-LEG
ON THE
STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OIC

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Having considered the status of signature, ratification, and accession to the Agreements concluded under the auspices of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Noting that the necessary quorum of ratifications by Member States for the coming into force of many of these Agreements is not yet reached in accordance with the provisions of their Statutes; and the importance of expediting this process for strengthening the role of the OIC and expanding the fields of cooperation among Member States;

1. **Notes with satisfaction** the coming into force of the **Statute** of the Islamic Civil Aviation Council and the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System between the OIC Member States.

2. **Urges** the Member States once gain to sign and/or ratify, as soon as possible, the various agreements concluded in the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 6/31-LEG
ON THE OIC CONVENTION ON COMBATING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Welcoming the approval by the 26th ICFM of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism;

Recalling Resolution No. 43/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, which approved the Code of Conduct for Combating International Terrorism, as well as Resolution No. 54/8-P (IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, Resolution No. 65/9-P (IS) of the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration of the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on International Terrorism;

Also recalling UN Resolution No. 60/49 on the Declaration of principles on combating international terrorism;

Reaffirming the determination to combat terrorist acts in all their forms and manifestations, including those where States are directly or indirectly involved;

Reiterating the commitment to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, to eliminate the objectives and causes of terrorism directed against the life and property of innocent people and the sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability, and security of States, and to uphold the provisions of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, which reaffirm this commitment;

Emphasizing the importance of international and regional cooperation, especially among Member States, including coordination and exchange of information among their competent authorities in combating effectively all forms of terrorism;

Reiterating its call to Member States to observe the principles of good neighborliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of States and to prevent the use of their territories by individuals or groups for the perpetration of terrorist acts against other Member States;

Emphasizing the importance of establishing a climate of confidence and solidarity among Member States;

Expressing its concern at the continued acts of violence and the escalation of concomitant aggressions, particularly recent attacks against foreign tourists;

Strongly condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including state terrorism directed against all States and peoples;

Having considered the report of the OIC Secretary-General on the follow-up of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism;

1. **Asserts** that Islam is innocent of all forms of terrorism which involve the murder of innocent people whose killing is forbidden by Islam, and **rejects** any attempts to link Islam and Muslims to terrorism because the latter has no relation whatsoever with religions, civilizations, or nationalities.

2. **Strongly condemns** the perpetrators of these heinous terrorist crimes, who pretend to act in the name of Islam or under any other pretext.

3. **Calls upon** all states not to grant asylum to these terrorists, and to take all necessary measures to help bring them to justice.

4. **Affirms** the determination of Member States to coordinate their efforts to combat all forms and manifestations of terrorism, including state terrorism directed against all States and peoples.

5. **Reaffirms** that the struggle of peoples under colonialist domination or under foreign occupation, for their national liberation or to regain their right to self-determination, does not constitute an act of terrorism.

6. **Takes note with satisfaction of** the coming into force of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism

7. **Calls upon** Member States to follow up the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism and expedite their signing and and/or ratification of the Convention, and to

coordinate their stands and cooperate in the light of the principles and provisions stipulated in the Convention at all international conferences and forums concerned with the issue of terrorism and international terrorism.

8. **Reaffirms** the commitment of Member States to the provisions of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, especially those reaffirming their commitment to refrain from initiating, attempting, or participating in any way in the financing, instigating, or supporting of any acts of terrorism, directly or indirectly as well as the provisions requiring the Member States to take all necessary measures to ensure that their territories are not used as a base for planning, organizing, executing, and/or participating in any terrorist activity.

9. **Calls upon** OIC Member States to make every effort to enhance their cooperation, within the framework of respecting their domestic laws and relevant international arrangements and conventions, in countering and combating terrorist acts, prosecuting their perpetrators or handing them over to their respective countries of origin or to the state where the terrorist act had been committed, in accordance with their bilateral agreements and arrangements as well as cooperation among these states in the fields of exchange of relevant information on terrorists and their activities.

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 7/31-LEG
ON
CONVENING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE U.N. TO DEFINE TERRORISM AND DISTINGUISH IT FROM PEOPLES' STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004).

Committed to the moral and human principles endorsed by the OIC Member States, and **inspired** by their tolerant religion and by their heritage and tradition which call for the rejection of all forms of injustice, aggression, and intolerance;

Stressing the existence of an international consensus on combating terrorism in all its forms, including state terrorism, which threatens the lives and properties of innocent people, violates the sovereignty of States, and endangers the rights of peoples; **and underlining** the importance of addressing the real causes of international terrorism, being convinced that the war on terror will not succeed unless the environment that nurtures terrorism, including foreign occupation, injustice, and exclusion is dealt with;

Rejecting any attempt to link Islam and Muslims to terrorism **and reiterating** that terrorism has no relation with any religion, civilization, or nationality;

Recognizing the need for specific and agreed upon international standards, to enable the international community to differentiate clearly between terrorism and the struggle for national liberation for peoples under alien colonial domination or foreign occupation;

Reaffirming the fundamental and legitimate right of all peoples struggling under the yoke of colonialist, racist regimes and under foreign occupation to resist such occupation and achieve self-determination, and in particular the struggle of national liberation movements;

Recalling OIC resolutions and instruments on combating international terrorism;

Condemning all terrorist acts, including those directly or indirectly perpetrated by States, which spread violence and terror, such as foreign occupation, racism, and aggression, and aim at destabilizing countries and communities;

Denouncing the rabid attempts aimed at obliterating the clear distinction between terrorism and the legitimate struggle of peoples, which conforms with the principles of international law and the provisions of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations;

Denouncing also the use or threat of use of military force against any Islamic State under the pretext of combating terrorism; **and stressing** the pivotal role of the UN in the international campaign against terrorism and that the expression ("axis of evil"), used by certain States to target other States is itself a form of political and psychological terrorism;

Noting the classification adopted by some quarters on the basis of biased political considerations according to which a number of Islamic States are listed among the so called terrorism-sponsoring states;

Rejecting any selective, exclusive, or double standard in combating international terrorism, which is contrary to the principles of the UN Charter and undermine the international and comprehensive campaign against terrorism;

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution No. 1514 (1960) on granting the right of self-determination and independence to colonized countries and peoples, and UN General Assembly Resolution No. 42/104, adopted on 7 December 1987;

Also recalling Resolution No. 7/10-P (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 7/30-LEG issued by the 30th ICFM as well as previous and relevant resolutions;

1. **Reiterates** its support for convening an International Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define terrorism and distinguish it from peoples' struggle for national liberation; **and supports** the Tunisian presidential initiative on establishing a Code of Conduct on Combating International Terrorism in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the 7th Islamic Summit Conference pending the adoption of a Comprehensive International Convention on Terrorism within the framework of preparing for the proposed international conference.

2. **Invites** Member States to stress the need for convening an International Conference to define the meaning of terrorism, and to distinguish it from peoples' struggle for national liberation.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 8/31-LEG
ON
STRENGTHENING ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY IN COMBATING HIJACKING

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, the latest of which have been Resolutions No. 8/10-LEG (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 8/30-LEG adopted by the 30th Session of the ICFM;

Taking into consideration that the hijacking of aircraft and terrorization of innocent passengers is a crime as grave as highway robbery, which is prohibited by the Islamic Shariah in accordance with the text of the Holy Quran (Surat Al-Maida (*The Table*), Ayah 33);

Noting that the crimes of hijacking aircraft have persisted despite all international agreements and conventions prohibiting them and calling for more severe sanctions against hijacking;

Affirming that acts of violence against innocent passengers in addition to the dread, terror, and suffering caused to them and to their relatives and their exposure to unjustified physical and mental torture are contrary to the provisions of Islamic Shariah;

Conscious of the need for full observance of international conventions against hijacking;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening Islamic solidarity in combating hijacking;

1. **Condemns** all forms of international terrorism, including the crime of hijacking and unlawful acts against the safety and security of civil aviation.

2. **Calls on** Member States to refrain from yielding to the demands of hijackers, which constitute a form of extortion contrary to the interests and laws of the peoples and countries of the OIC.

3. **Calls upon** Member States to take all necessary measures to curb such crimes and inflict the most severe punishments on their perpetrators, or to hand them over to the other States concerned.

4. **Calls upon** Member States which have not yet acceded to or ratified the Tokyo Convention (1963), The Hague Convention (1970), and the Montreal Convention (1971) on penalties for hijacking and guarantees for the security and safety of civil aviation, to expedite such accession and ratification; **and urges** States that have already acceded to these Conventions to strictly and firmly implement their provisions.

5. **Calls upon** all Member States on whose territories hijacked planes land to exert utmost efforts to foil the designs of the hijackers in keeping with international laws in this regard, in cooperation with the country owning the aircraft, and in accordance with relevant international agreements.

6. **Requests** the Member States facing such situations to provide the necessary assistance to the passengers, crewmembers, aircraft, and countries owning them in accordance with the provisions of international agreements.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex X

Resolutions on organizational matters

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-ORG
ON
CANDIDACIES PRESENTED BY MEMBER STATES FOR POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004).

Aware of the importance of representation of Islamic States in various international positions;

Having considered the candidacies presented by Member States in this regard;

Decides to support the following candidacies:

1- **Candidacy of the Republic of Tunisia** to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization for the period 2004 -2010, at the elections to be held during the 35th Session of General Assembly of the Organization in Montreal, from 23 September to 8 October 2004.

2- **Candidacy of Mr. Mouldi Morsit (Republic of Tunisia)** for a new term of membership in the International Court on Law of the Sea, at the elections to be held during the 15th Meeting of States parties to the UN Treaty, to elect a third of members of the Court anew in 2005.

3- **Candidacy of Ambassador Papa Louis Fall (Republic of Senegal)** for Membership in the UN's Joint Inspection Unit.

4- **Candidacy of the Islamic Republic of Iran** for the membership in the United Nations Security Council for the period 2009-2010, at the elections that will be held during the 63rd UN General Assembly in New York in 2008.

5- **Candidacy of Mr. Mahaman Dan Da (Republic of Niger)** to the position of Assistant Attorney General at the International Criminal Court.

6- **Candidacy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria** of the Governing Board of the International Atomic Energy Agency during the elections to be held in September 2004.

7- **Candidacy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria** for membership of the Administration Board and the Exploitation Board of the International Postal Union (IPU) during the elections to be conducted in the 23rd Conference to be held in Bucharest, Romania, from 15 September to 5 October 2004.

8- **Candidacy of Mr. Fateh Bou Ayad (The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria)** for membership of the International Public Service of the United Nations.

9- **Candidacy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan** to the membership of ECOSOC whose elections will be held during the forthcoming Session of the UNGA in New York in September/October 2004.

10- **Candidacy of the Republic of Turkey** for non-permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council for the period 2009-2010 at the elections that will be held during the 63rd UN General Assembly in New York in 2008.

11- **Candidacy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan** to the membership of the International Civil Aviation Organization whose elections are due to be held in September/October 2004 in Montreal.

12- **Candicacy of the Republic of Kazakhstan** to the membership of the ECOSOC whose elections are due to be held during the forthcoming session of the UNGA in New York in September/October 2004.

13. **Confirming support to the candidacy of the State of Qatar** as a non-permanent Member of the UN Security Council for the period 2006=2007, during the elections to be held in the 60th Session of the General Assembly in 2005.

14. **Re-election of Mr. Jacques Diof (Republic of Senegal)** for another mandate as Director-General of FAO.

15. **Candidacy of the State of the United Arab Emirates** to the membership of the Council of Postal Exploitation and the Board Administration of the Universal Postal Union during the elections due to be held in Bucharest, Romania for the period 2005-2007.

16. **Candidacy of the Islamic Republic of Iran** to the membership of ECOSOC, whose elections will be held in New York in its 59th Session for the period 2005-2007.

17. **Candidacy of the Republic of Indonesia** for non-permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council for the period of 2007-2008, whose elections will be held during the 61st UN General Assembly in New York in 2006.

18. **Candidacy of Malaysia** for the election to the Postal Exploitation Council and the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) at the elections to be held during the 23rd UPU Congress in Bucharest-Romania, 15 September – 5 October 2004.

19. **Candicacy of Malaysia** to CEDAW.

RESOLUTION No. 2/31-ORG
ON
REQUESTS FOR OIC OBSERVER STATUS OR FULL MEMBERSHIP

The Thirty-First Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June, 2004),

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Recalling also the relevant Resolutions adopted by Islamic Summits and Foreign Ministers Conferences, latest of which Resolution No. 2/7-ORG (IS) on the regulation governing Observer status of the Organization of the Islamic Conference adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, and also Resolutions No. 1/25-ORG and No. 67/27-P on the procedures for accession to full OIC, adopted by the 25th and 27th Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference contained in Document No. ICFM/31-2004/ORG/SG.REP;

Convinced that promotion of Islamic causes and creation of greater harmony and understanding between the OIC and non member states and international and regional organizations is an aspired goal, and that establishing a global partnership may be given consideration by OIC;

Having taken cognizance of the growing number of applications for observer status or full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

1- **Decides** to maintain the criteria for accession to full OIC membership, as contained in documents No. OIC/ANFFM-97/REP.1/Final, and OIC/MS/2-99/REP.1/Final.

2- **Further decides** to establish an intergovernmental experts group to examine and review the existing criteria of Observer status at the OIC.

3- **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and Summit a report thereon to the Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Annex XI

Resolutions on Dawa activities

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/31-DW
ON
DAWA ACTIVITIES AND THE REACTIVATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION

The 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004);

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Eighth Islamic Summits and other Conferences particularly the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference;

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the Casablanca Declaration issued by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. **Requests** the Committee for the Coordination of Joint Islamic Action to develop a mechanism for the admission of Islamic organizations that meet appropriate membership criteria.

2. **Calls for** the convening of the experts meeting to review and assess the progress of the Committee for the Coordination of Joint Islamic Action through practical proposals to overcome the obstacles faced by the Committee and develop working, implementation, and follow-up mechanisms.

3. **Expresses** its thanks to the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Islamic Republic of Iran, the World Islamic Call Society in Tripoli, and Al-Azhar Al-Sharif for hosting the meetings of the Committee for the Coordinatio9n of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa.

4. **Approves** the recommendations issued by the Thirteenth Session of the OIC Coordination Committee for Joint Islamic Action in the Dawa field, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah from 19 to 21 May 2003 at the gracious invitation of the World Muslim League.

5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/31-DW
ON
THE STRATEGY FOR JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION IN THE FIELD OF DAWA AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

The 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004);

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the Dakar Declaration issued by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference pledging "the commitment of the leaders of the Islamic Ummah to providing the Organization of the Islamic Conference with the required resources in order to support and coordinate Islamic Dawa efforts and to improve educational curricula and training programmes as well as to disseminate the teachings of Islam throughout the world, within the framework of cooperation among States and of respecting their sovereignty; and also to instill the lofty values of Islam";

Inspired by the resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences;

Recalling Resolution No. 32/21-C adopted by the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) approving the development of an Islamic Dawa Strategy in keeping with the provisions of the Cultural Strategy Document approved by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural, and Social Affairs held in Jeddah from 27 Muharram—2 Safar 1416H (24-29 June 1995),

Inspired by Resolution No. 37/8-C (IS) adopted by the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9-11 Shaaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997);

Recalling Resolution No. 40/9-C (IS) adopted by the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference held in Doha, from 16-17 Shaaban 1421H (12-13 November 2000);

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the previous phases of the Strategy for Islamic Dawa and its Implementation Mechanism; recommends the following:

1. **Requests** Member States to take the necessary steps to incorporate the Strategy on joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa approved by the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of

Foreign Ministers into their national policies in the educational, information, Islamic Dawa and other fields as a methodology to be followed in Joint Islamic Action.

Urges Member States to support the Plan of the Strategy and endeavor to implement the Strategy for the Islamic World.

Invites the Secretary-General to establish direct contacts with the Ministers of Awqaf in the Member States to urge them to take advantage of the Strategy and circulate it to Imams of Mosques and leaders of Islamic centers affiliated to the Ministries of Awqaf in the Member States.

Appeals to the Member States to coordinate the efforts of Islamic Dawa through the Ministers of Awqaf in order to implement the Strategy on Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/31-DW
ON
CONSIDERING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY THE ISLAMIC UMMAH IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

The 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004);

Recalling Resolution No. 38/29-C adopted by the Twenty-fifth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM); and recalling also Resolution No. 40/30-C adopted by the Twenty-sixth ICFM held in Ouagadougou, which "commissions the experts group to continue to finalize the examination of challenges that face the Islamic Ummah";

Recalling Resolution No. 45/9-C (IS) adopted by the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference held in Doha, on 16-17 Sha'aban 1421H (12-13 November 2000); which "Commissions the Experts Group to continue to finalize the examination of challenges that face the Islamic Ummah in the Twenty-first Century, by taking further practical steps to confront these challenges and counteract any negative propaganda, and to correct any misunderstanding and promote the true image of Islam";

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the subject; recommends the following:

1. **Requests** the Experts Group to continue to finalize the examination of challenges that face the Islamic Ummah and of steps to confront these challenges whilst calling on assistance from a limited number of experts in economics, education, and information.

2. **Calls on** the Experts Group to develop a methodology to determine the real challenges that imperil the Islamic Ummah.

3. **Recommends** the Experts Group to consider in particular such issues as globalization, ideological, and psychological challenges, as well as modernity, secularism, culture, and education.

4. **Calls on** the Committee to expand the scope of civilizational discourse addressed to the various groups of the Islamic Ummah so as to increase their awareness of the responsibility incumbent upon them in facing the challenges ahead, finding possible solutions, and empowering the Islamic Ummah to fulfill its civilizational role.

5. **Calls for** necessary action to eradicate poverty, ignorance, and disease which are the major challenges in Islamic societies and are at the same time the main obstacles to development.

6. **Calls for** necessary attention to the education of young generations, particularly from sound Islamic, psychological, and knowledge-based perspectives.

7. **Urges** scientific and research institutions to conduct scientific studies of major issues and challenges concerning the future of the Ummah.

8. **Endorses** the DRAFT RESOLUTIONs of the third meeting of the Expert Group entrusted with examining the various challenges that the Islamic Ummah is facing in the 21st Century, held in Tripoli from 13 to 15 April, 2002.

9. **Commends** and adopts the strategies and medium-term action plan prepared by ISESCO to enable the Islamic Ummah to address the educational, scientific, cultural and communication challenges confronting it in the 21st Century. Expresses profound appreciation for the content of the study submitted by ISESCO on its vision regarding international challenges and charges within its scope of work.

10. **Expresses** its appreciation to the World Islamic Call Society in Tripoli for hosting the first and second meetings of the Experts Committee.

11. **Expresses** its thanks to the World Academy for Rapprochement among Islamic Madhib in Tehran for hosting the 4th meeting of the Experts Committee on the consideration of the challenges faced by the Muslim Ummah in the 21st Century.

12. **Adopts** the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts in charge of examining and exploring the challenges facing the Muslim Ummah in the Twenty-first Century, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 12 to 14 July 2003.

13. **Expresses** its appreciation to the International Islamic Dawa Organizatio9n in Khartoum for hosting the Fifth meeting of the Expert Committee on the Challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century.

14. **Endorses** the recommendations issued by the Fifth meeting of the Expert Committee on the Challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century which was held in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan from 28 to 30 March 2004.

15. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/31-DW
ON
DAWA ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF PILGRIMS OF MAKKAH HOLY MOSQUE ABOUT THE RITES OF PILGRIMAGE (HAJJ) AND WORSHIP

The 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004);

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Recalling the Casablanca Declaration issued by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference,

Recalling also the Resolution No. 37/8-C(I.S.) and Resolution No. 40/30-C on the reactivation of Islamic Da'awa and activities of the Coordination Committee of Joint Islamic Action issued respectively, by the Eighth Islamic Conference held in Tehran from 9-11 December 1997, and the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Ouagadougou from 28 June to 1 July 1999, on inviting the Centres of Islamic Culture and Centres of Da'awa to promote the awareness of the pilgrims of the Holy Mosque about the rituals of pilgrimage and worship on their arrival in the Holy Places for performing Hajj,

Recalling the Resolution No. 30/29-C issued by the 29th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Recalling also the Resolution adopted by the relevant Islamic Conferences,

Recommends the following:

1. **Invites** Islamic Cultural and Da'awa Centres to educate pilgrims about rituals and practices prior to their arrival in the Holy Places to perform the Hajj duty.

2. **Expresses** appreciation to Member States which educate the pilgrims of the Holy Mosque about the rituals of Haj; and invites Member States to create awareness to their pilgrims prior to their arrival in the Holy Places, through the concerned quarters.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/31-DW

DAWA ACTIVITIES FOR HOLDING MORE SYMPOSIA ON PROJECTING THE REAL CIVILIZATIONAL IMAGE OF ISLAM IN THE WORLD

The 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Progress and Global Harmony) held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 26-28 Rabiul Thani, 1425H (14-16 June 2004):

Referring to the provision of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the Casablanca Declaration issued by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also the Resolution adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences on the reactivation of Islamic Dawa (Call) and invigoration of the Committee for Coordination of Joint Islamic Action, entrusting the Secretary-General of the Organization to work for holding more symposia on the Islamic Culture and call;

Recalling also Resolution No. 30/29-C adopted by the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling Resolutions taken by the Islamic Conferences on holding more symposia on Islamic Culture and Call, especially after it has been established that previous symposia were effective in projecting the real civilizational image of Islam and confronting the blasphemous attempts launched against Islam and Islamic civilization;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on these symposia, recommends the following:

1. **Calls for** holding further symposia on the Islamic Culture and Dawa, and Islamic Civilization, in coordination with the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and social Affairs.

2. **Highly appreciates** and takes note of the recommendations issued by the International Symposium held in Malmo city in Sweden from 5 to 7 December, 2003 under the theme of "Islam in Sweden: Cultural Dimensions and Human Relations".

3. **Expresses** thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the World Islamic Call Society, the World Islamic Charitable Organization, the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Waqf, Dawa and religious guidance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other Islamic Associations for their valuable material assistance to the Islamic symposia held by the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.